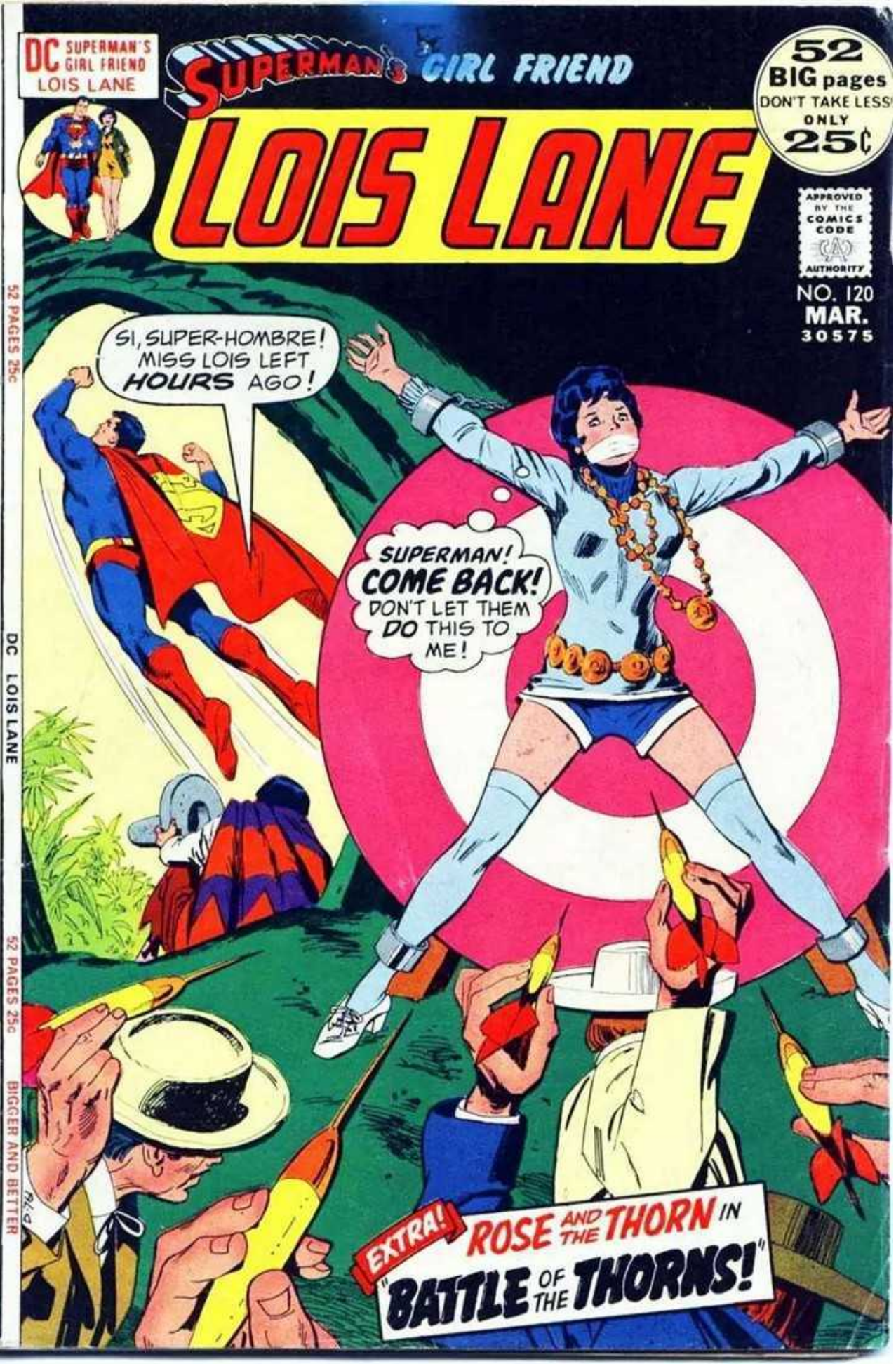
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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND
LOIS LANE
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SI, SUPER-HOMBRE! MISS LOIS LEFT HOURS AGO!
SUPERMAN! COME BACK! DON'T LET THEM DO THIS TO ME!
EXTRA! ROSE AND THE THORN IN "BATTLE OF THE THORNS!"
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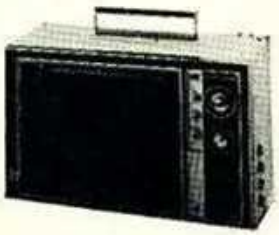

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SI, SENORITA! THEES EES SAME GIRL I HAVE SEEN ON THE RAPIDS ONLY TWO, THREE DAYS AGO!
LUCY... LUCY!
HER CANOE... IT WAS RIDING ON THE CURRENT AT GREAT SPEED!
YES, YES! THAT IS THE ONE! I REMEMBER HER GOLDEN HAIR!
DID LOIS KILL HER SISTER?
HER SISTER LUCY... THE GIRL SHE GREW UP WITH... THE TWO OF THEM VERY CLOSE AS THEY LEAD THEIR SEPARATE LIVES! BUT LIFE CAN BE CRUEL, FULL OF SHOCKING TRUTH! COME WITH US NOW TO A COUNTRY IN SOUTH AMERICA, WHERE LOIS UNRAVELS A TANGLED WEB OF DANGER AND INTRIGUE TO FIND OUT...
STORY: CARY BATES (FROM A PLOT BY IRENE VARTANOFF)
ART: WERNER ROTH & VINCE COLLETTA
WHO KILLED LUCY LANE?

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE, Vol. 15, No. 120, March, 1972. Published monthly, (semi-monthly Sept.) by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Carmine Infantino, Publisher. E. Nelson Bridwell, Editor. Sol Harrison, Production Manager. Ed Lolacher, Circulation Director. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and additional mailing offices. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright ©1972 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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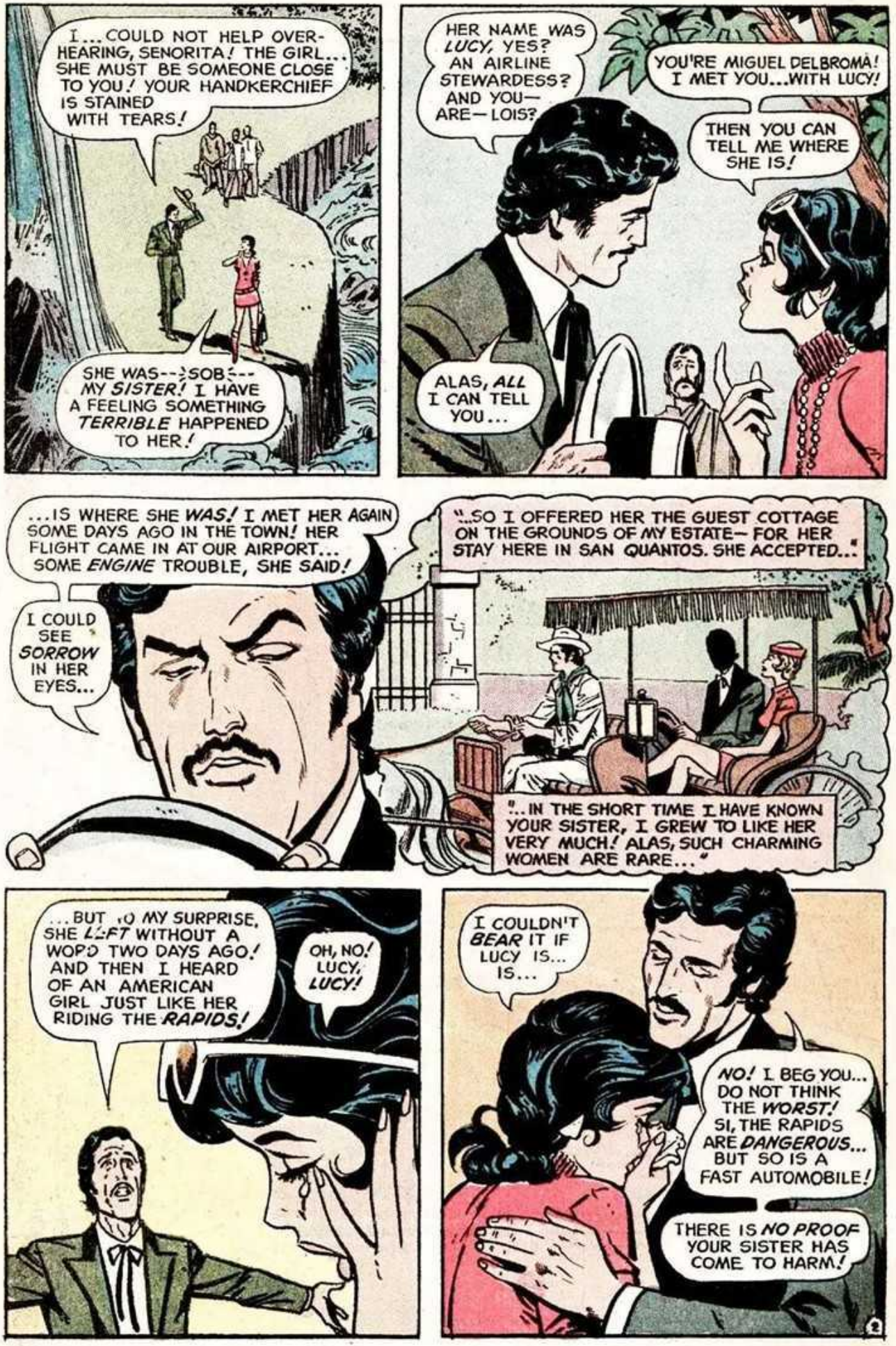
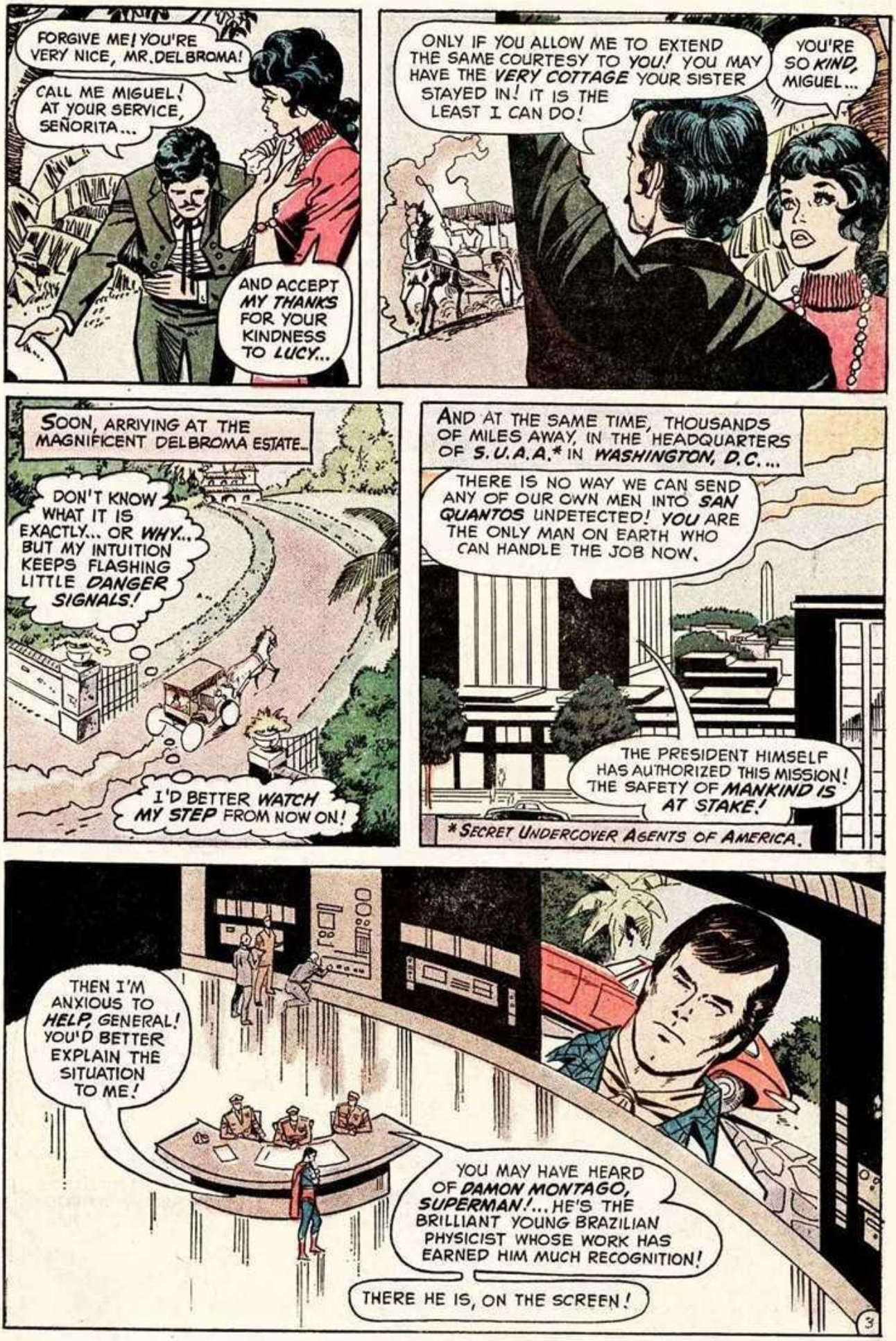

I...COULD NOT HELP OVER-HEARING, SENORITA! THE GIRL... SHE MUST BE SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU! YOUR HANDKERCHIEF IS STAINED WITH TEARS!
SHE WAS--SOB--MY SISTER! I HAVE A FEELING SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENED TO HER!
HER NAME WAS LUCY, YES? AN AIRLINE STEWARDESS? AND YOU—ARE—LOIS?
YOU'RE MIGUEL DELBROMA! I MET YOU...WITH LUCY!
THEN YOU CAN TELL ME WHERE SHE IS!
ALAS, ALL I CAN TELL YOU...
...IS WHERE SHE WAS! I MET HER AGAIN SOME DAYS AGO IN THE TOWN! HER FLIGHT CAME IN AT OUR AIRPORT... SOME ENGINE TROUBLE, SHE SAID!
I COULD SEE SORROW IN HER EYES...
"...SO I OFFERED HER THE GUEST COTTAGE ON THE GROUNDS OF MY ESTATE— FOR HER STAY HERE IN SAN QUANTOS. SHE ACCEPTED..."
"...IN THE SHORT TIME I HAVE KNOWN YOUR SISTER, I GREW TO LIKE HER VERY MUCH! ALAS, SUCH CHARMING WOMEN ARE RARE..."
...BUT TO MY SURPRISE, SHE LEFT WITHOUT A WORD TWO DAYS AGO! AND THEN I HEARD OF AN AMERICAN GIRL JUST LIKE HER RIDING THE RAPIDS!
OH, NO! LUCY, LUCY!
I COULDN'T BEAR IT IF LUCY IS... IS...
NO! I BEG YOU... DO NOT THINK THE WORST! SI, THE RAPIDS ARE DANGEROUS... BUT SO IS A FAST AUTOMOBILE!
THERE IS NO PROOF YOUR SISTER HAS COME TO HARM!


FORGIVE ME! YOU'RE VERY NICE, MR. DELBROMA!
CALL ME MIGUEL! AT YOUR SERVICE, SEÑORITA...
AND ACCEPT MY THANKS FOR YOUR KINDNESS TO LUCY...
ONLY IF YOU ALLOW ME TO EXTEND THE SAME COURTESY TO YOU! YOU MAY HAVE THE VERY COTTAGE YOUR SISTER STAYED IN! IT IS THE LEAST I CAN DO!
YOU'RE SO KIND, MIGUEL...
SOON, ARRIVING AT THE MAGNIFICENT DELBROMA ESTATE...
DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS EXACTLY... OR WHY... BUT MY INTUITION KEEPS FLASHING LITTLE DANGER SIGNALS!
I'D BETTER WATCH MY STEP FROM NOW ON!
AND AT THE SAME TIME, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY, IN THE HEADQUARTERS OF S.U.A.A.* IN WASHINGTON, D.C....
THERE IS NO WAY WE CAN SEND ANY OF OUR OWN MEN INTO SAN QUANTOS UNDETECTED! YOU ARE THE ONLY MAN ON EARTH WHO CAN HANDLE THE JOB NOW.
THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF HAS AUTHORIZED THIS MISSION! THE SAFETY OF MANKIND IS AT STAKE!
*SECRET UNDERCOVER AGENTS OF AMERICA.
THEN I'M ANXIOUS TO HELP, GENERAL! YOU'D BETTER EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO ME!
YOU MAY HAVE HEARD OF DAMON MONTAGO, SUPERMAN!... HE'S THE BRILLIANT YOUNG BRAZILIAN PHYSICIST WHOSE WORK HAS EARNED HIM MUCH RECOGNITION!
THERE HE IS, ON THE SCREEN!
3

HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO WASHINGTON A FEW DAYS AGO... WHEN HIS PLANE MADE AN EMERGENCY LANDING IN SAN QUANTOS! HE HASN'T BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE.
WE BELIEVE THE INFAMOUS CRIME SYNDICATE ... THE 100... IS RESPONSIBLE!
THE 100?!? I THOUGHT THEIR TERRITORY WAS STRICTLY METROPOLIS!
THEY'VE BRANCHED OUT— INTO A SOUTH AMERICAN SPY NETWORK OF AGENTS WHO ARE BUSBOYS, STEWARDESSES, CHAUFFEURS! JOBS WITH EASY ACCESS TO VITAL DOCUMENTS...
... BEING CARRIED BY VIP'S LIKE MONTAGO! HE WAS BRINGING A TOP-SECRET FORMULA TO WASHINGTON!
MONTAGO CODE-NAMED IT OMEGA POWER...
OMEGA BOMB
... AND IT MAY WELL BE A MILLION TIMES MORE LETHAL THAN OUR LARGEST ATOMIC BOMB!
EVEN ONE DETONATION COULD DESTROY THE ENTIRE CONTINENT!
AND YOU'RE AFRAID THE 100 HAS LATCHED ON TO MONTAGO AND HIS OMEGA FORMULA!
EXACTLY! WITH OMEGA, THEY COULD DEMAND ANYTHING FROM THE U.S., OR ANYONE ELSE... AND WE'D BE HELPLESS TO FIGHT BACK!
4

A WORLD RULED BY THE 100! FRIGHTENING!
ONLY YOU CAN STOP IT, SUPERMAN! IF YOU CAN FIND DAMON MONTAGO AND RETRIEVE THE FORMULA, THERE'S STILL A CHANCE!
DAMON MONTAGO! WHERE COULD HE BE?
LATER IN SAN QUANTOS...
THE TIME, THAT NIGHT...
AH! THERE HE GOES!
OLÉ! THE BOLAS ARE RIGHT ON TARGET!
THOK
OOOOFFF!
HE IS OURS!
THREE OF YOU! AN AMBUSH!
SI, SEÑOR MONTAGO-- AND YOU ARE COMING WITH US!
5

WRONG! MR. MONTAGO IS COMING WITH ME!
IT'S SUPERMAN!
DO NOT COME ANY CLOSER, SEÑOR SUPERMAN— OR WE WILL FILL YOUR FRIEND FULL OF THE LEAD!

I FIGURED YOU MIGHT TRY SOMETHING LIKE THAT... SO I BROUGHT ALONG SOME PORTABLE BULLET-PROOFING!

A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, THE BRAZILIAN PHYSICIST IS ENCASED IN AN IMPREGNABLE PLASTIC SHEATH THAT DEFLECTS THE BARRAGE OF GUNFIRE...
OUR SHOTS--THEY ALL RICOCHET LIKE THE JUMPING BEAN!
THE BULLETS CANNOT GO THROUGH THAT THING!

UNO!
DOS!
TRES!
IN ANY LANGUAGE, THIS IS A TRIPLE-HEADER!
AWWWGHH!
UHHHH!
OOOOOOO!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

Aurora rolls out a half dozen new A/FX heavies.

NO. 1762 A/FX NASCAR PLYMOUTH

NO. 1761 A/FX PINTO FUNNY CAR

NO. 1763 A/FX FERRARI 512 M

NO. 1766 A/FX CORVETTE FUNNY CAR

NO. 1765 A/FX JAVELIN TRANS AM

NO. 1764 A/FX JAVELIN PRO STOCKER

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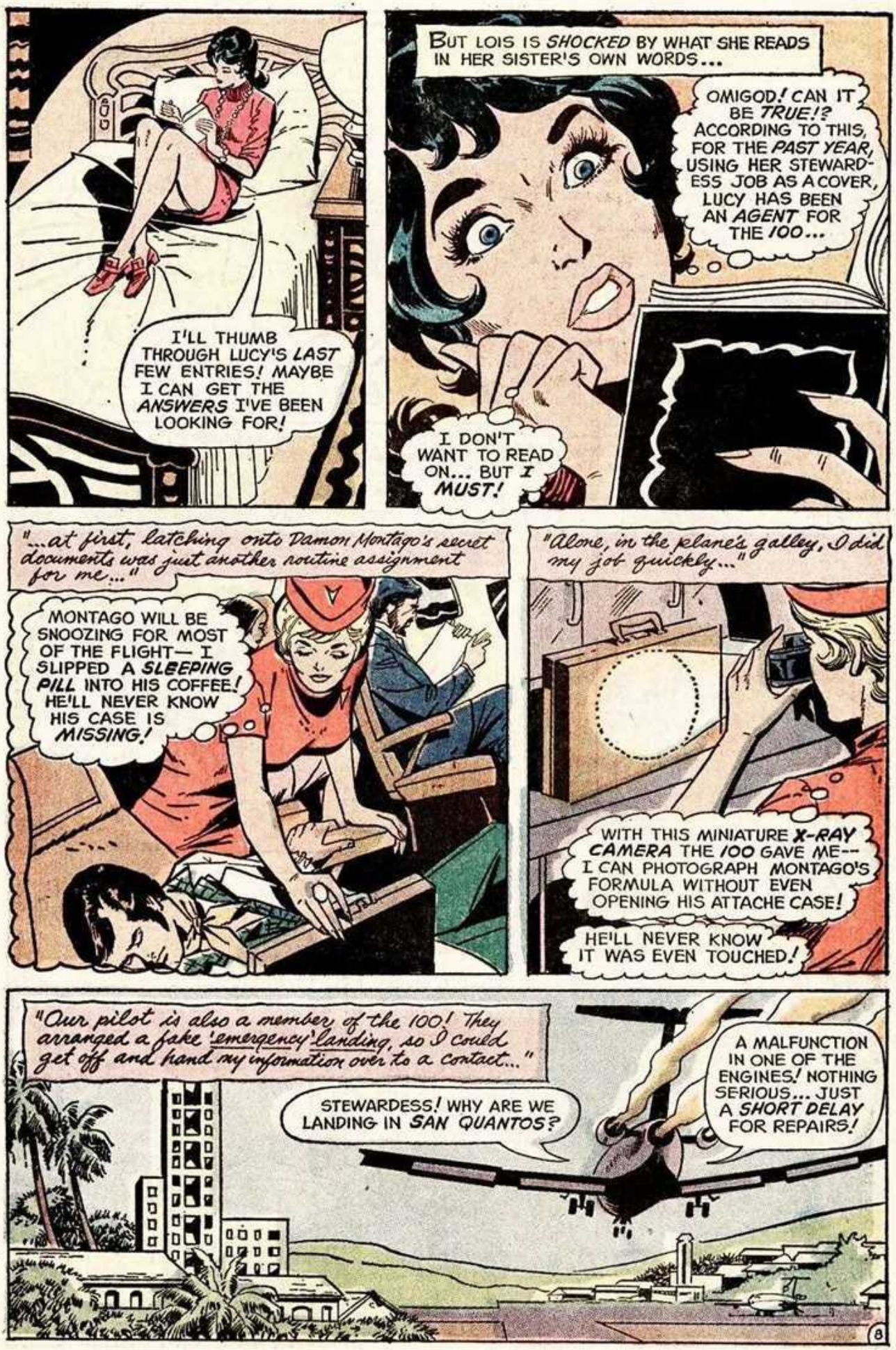
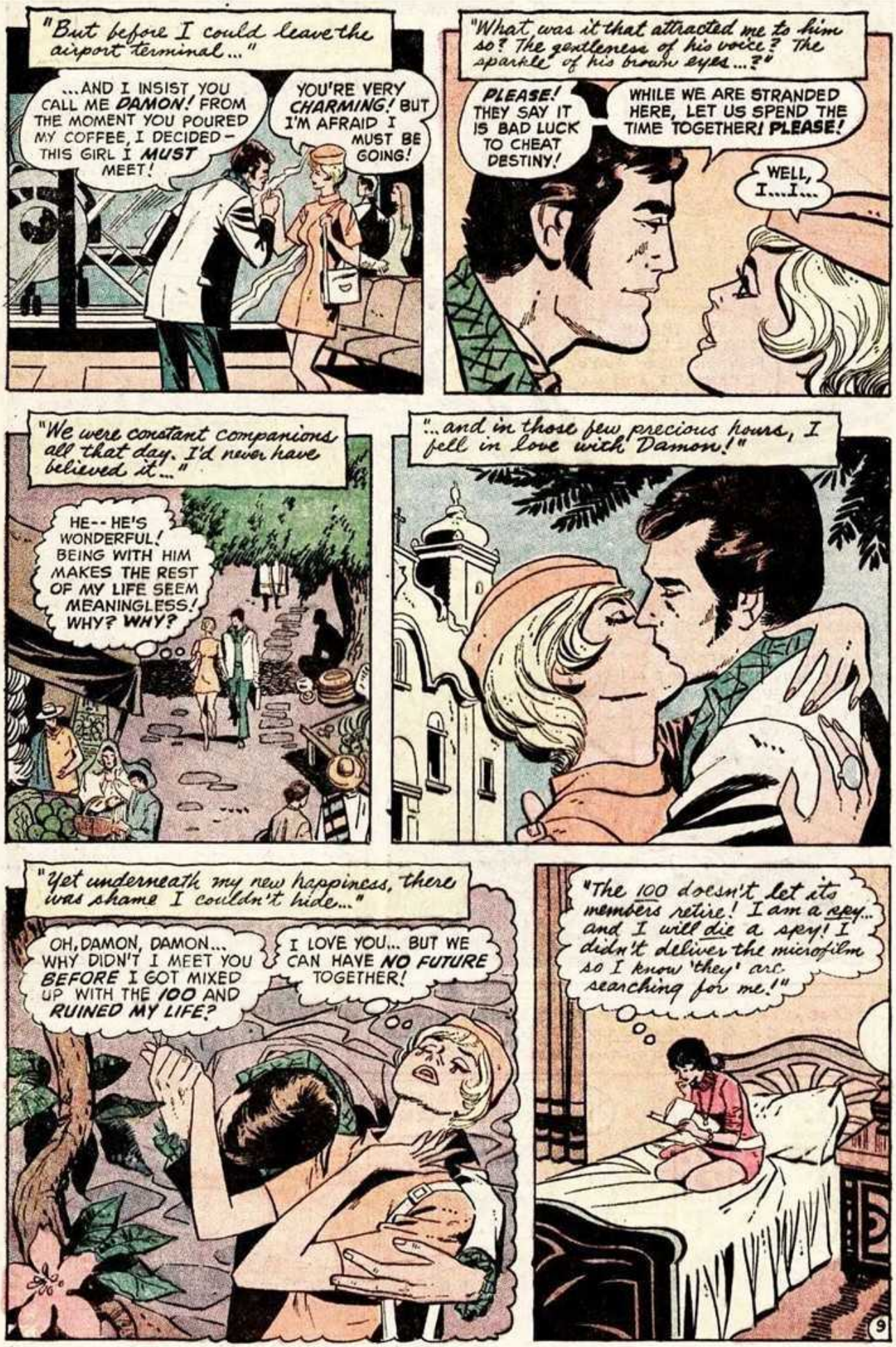
I OWE YOU MY LIFE, SUPERMAN! BUT--I DO NOT KNOW WHY SUCH MEN WOULD CHOOSE TO ATTACK ME!
I THINK YOU DO, MONTAGO...
THOSE THUGS ARE MEMBERS OF A CRIME ORGANIZATION CALLED THE 100! THEY'RE DESPERATE FOR THE "HOMEWORK" IN YOUR ATTACHE CASE!
AH, THEN YOU KNOW ABOUT OMEGA! I MAY AS WELL TELL YOU EVERYTHING NOW...
MEANWHILE, AT THE DELBROMA COTTAGE...
:CHOKE: THIS PLACE IS MY CLOSEST LINK WITH LUCY...YET I STILL KNOW NOTHING! IF ONLY I COULD FIND A CLUE THAT MIGHT TELL ME WHERE SHE IS...
BUT FIRST I'D BETTER GET SOME REST! I'M EXHAUSTED!
UMPH...YOU'D THINK A MAN WITH DELBROMA'S WEALTH COULD AFFORD PILLOWS THAT AREN'T SO LUMPY!
WAIT A MINUTE... I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T BELONG IN HERE!
A DIARY! AND THAT RING! IT...IT'S LUCY'S!
DIARY
7

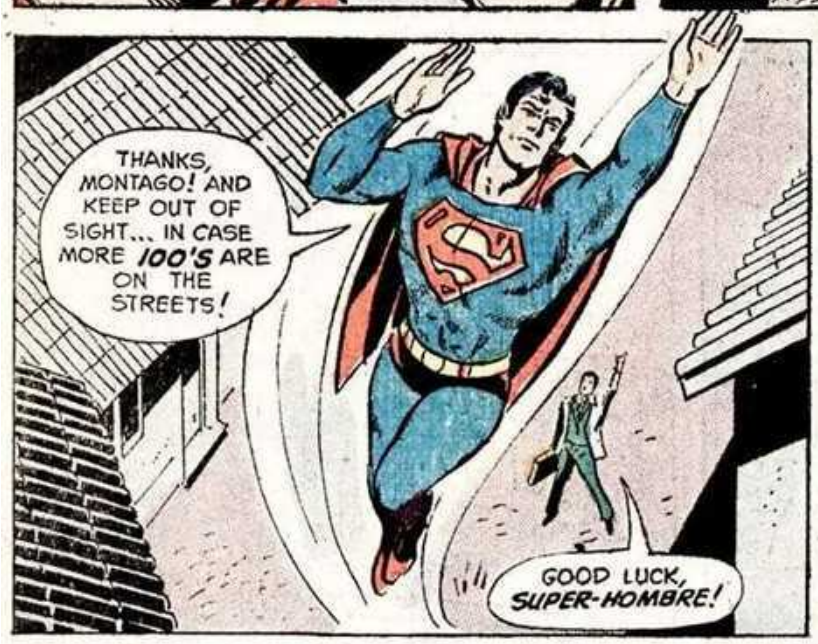

I'LL THUMB THROUGH LUCY'S LAST FEW ENTRIES! MAYBE I CAN GET THE ANSWERS I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!
BUT LOIS IS SHOCKED BY WHAT SHE READS IN HER SISTER'S OWN WORDS...
OMIGOD! CAN IT BE TRUE!? ACCORDING TO THIS, FOR THE PAST YEAR, USING HER STEWARDESS JOB AS A COVER, LUCY HAS BEEN AN AGENT FOR THE 100...
I DON'T WANT TO READ ON... BUT I MUST!
"...at first, latching onto Damon Montago's secret documents was just another routine assignment for me..."
MONTAGO WILL BE SNOOZING FOR MOST OF THE FLIGHT— I SLIPPED A SLEEPING PILL INTO HIS COFFEE! HE'LL NEVER KNOW HIS CASE IS MISSING!
"Alone, in the plane's galley, I did my job quickly..."
WITH THIS MINIATURE X-RAY CAMERA THE 100 GAVE ME-- I CAN PHOTOGRAPH MONTAGO'S FORMULA WITHOUT EVEN OPENING HIS ATTACHE CASE!
HE'LL NEVER KNOW IT WAS EVEN TOUCHED!
"Our pilot is also a member of the 100! They arranged a fake 'emergency' landing, so I could get off and hand my information over to a contact..."
STEWARDESS! WHY ARE WE LANDING IN SAN QUANTOS?
A MALFUNCTION IN ONE OF THE ENGINES! NOTHING SERIOUS... JUST A SHORT DELAY FOR REPAIRS!
8


"But before I could leave the airport terminal..."
...AND I INSIST YOU CALL ME DAMON! FROM THE MOMENT YOU POURED MY COFFEE, I DECIDED - THIS GIRL I MUST MEET!
YOU'RE VERY CHARMING! BUT I'M AFRAID I MUST BE GOING!
"What was it that attracted me to him so? The gentleness of his voice? The sparkle of his brown eyes...?"
PLEASE! THEY SAY IT IS BAD LUCK TO CHEAT DESTINY!
WHILE WE ARE STRANDED HERE, LET US SPEND THE TIME TOGETHER! PLEASE!
WELL, I...I...
"We were constant companions all that day. I'd never have believed it..."
HE--HE'S WONDERFUL! BEING WITH HIM MAKES THE REST OF MY LIFE SEEM MEANINGLESS! WHY? WHY?
"...and in those few precious hours, I fell in love with Damon!"
"Yet underneath my new happiness, there was shame I couldn't hide..."
OH, DAMON, DAMON... WHY DIDN'T I MEET YOU BEFORE I GOT MIXED UP WITH THE 100 AND RUINED MY LIFE?
I LOVE YOU... BUT WE CAN HAVE NO FUTURE TOGETHER!
"The 100 doesn't let its members retire! I am a spy... and I will die a spy! I didn't deliver the microfilm so I know 'they' are searching for me!"
9

WHILE A GRIEF-STRICKEN LOIS READS HER SISTER'S STORY, THE MAN OF STEEL HEARS A DIFFERENT VERSION FROM DAMON MONTAGO...
...YOU MEAN, YOU KNEW YOUR OMEGA FORMULA HAD BEEN PHOTOGRAPHED ON THE PLANE?
YES... THANKS TO THE INVISIBLE INFRA-RED CHEMICAL I COATED MY ATTACHE CASE WITH!
MY SPECIAL CONTACT LENSES ENABLED ME TO SEE THE TELL-TALE GLOW...
...A STORY LUCY COULD NOT POSSIBLY HAVE KNOWN!
"AND IT WAS ON THE BLONDE STEWARDESS' HANDS..."
SO! MISS LUCY TAMPERED WITH MY CASE WHILE I WAS ASLEEP! SHE COULD NOT OPEN IT... BUT SHE COULD HAVE PHOTOGRAPHED THE PAPERS INSIDE WITH SOME X-RAY DEVICE!
"I COULD NOT LET LUCY OUT OF MY SIGHT! SO I DECIDED TO ROMANCE HER, HOPING SHE WOULD HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART AND CONFESS..."
I DO NOT UNDERSTAND! THIS GIRL, THIS LUCY... SHE CAN BE SO WARM, SO LOVING...
WHY IS SHE INVOLVED IN THE CUTTHROAT BUSINESS OF...ENEMY ESPIONAGE?
"IT WAS EASY TO SEE SHE WAS DEEPLY TROUBLED ABOUT SOMETHING! BUT SHE WOULD NOT CONFIDE IN ME..."
HER LIPS... THEY QUIVER AGAINST MINE! I FEEL HER TEARS ON MY CHEEK...
"ALAS, THAT WAS A FAREWELL KISS! SHE RAN INTO THE NIGHT WITHOUT A WORD..."
LUCY! COME BACK!
10

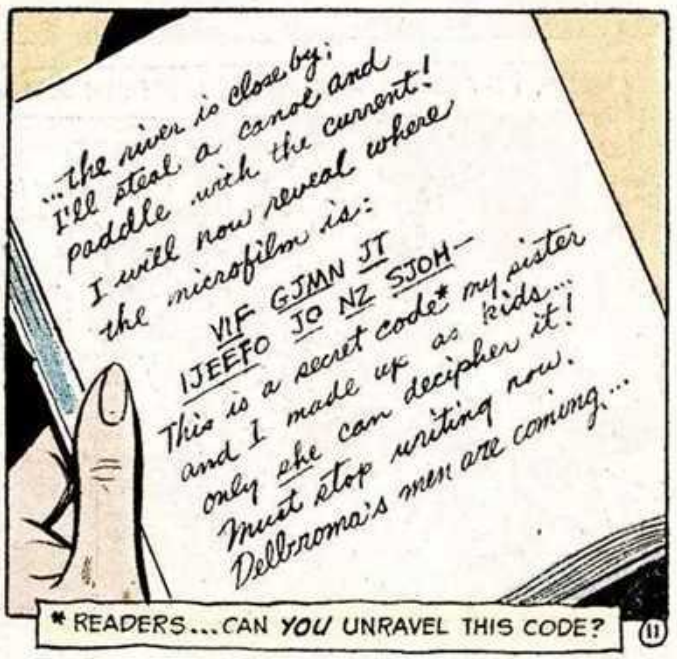
THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW HER...
LUCY LANE... AN AGENT FOR THE 100! SHOCKING!
SI! BUT WE ARE NOT THE ONLY ONES IN THE PICTURE! THERE IS HERE IN SAN QUANTOS ANOTHER YOUNG LADY, ASKING QUESTIONS! SHE CLAIMS TO BE LUCY'S SISTER!

THAT HAS TO BE LOIS! ANY IDEA WHERE SHE IS?
PEOPLE SAY SHE IS AT A COTTAGE OWNED BY THE WEALTHIEST MAN IN SAN QUANTOS... MIGUEL DELBROMA!


THANKS, MONTAGO! AND KEEP OUT OF SIGHT... IN CASE MORE 100'S ARE ON THE STREETS!
GOOD LUCK, SUPER-HOMBRE!

MEANWHILE...
MIGUEL LIED TO ME! HE LET LUCY STAY HERE ALL RIGHT... BUT AS A PRISONER! SHE SAYS IN HER DIARY THAT MIGUEL DELBROMA IS THE RINGLEADER FOR THE 100'S SPY RING!

WHEN HIS MEN FOUND HER... LUCY REFUSED TO GIVE UP THE MICROFILM OF DAMON'S FORMULA! SO THORPE HAD HER LOCKED IN HERE, TO MAKE HER TALK!
BUT... LUCY HAD A PLAN FOR ESCAPE! SHE SAYS...


...the river is close by; I'll steal a canoe and paddle with the current! I will now reveal where the microfilm is:
VIF GJMN JT
IJEEFO JO NZ SJOH-
This is a secret code* my sister and I made up as kids... only she can decipher it! Must stop writing now. Delbroma's men are coming...
* READERS... CAN YOU UNRAVEL THIS CODE?

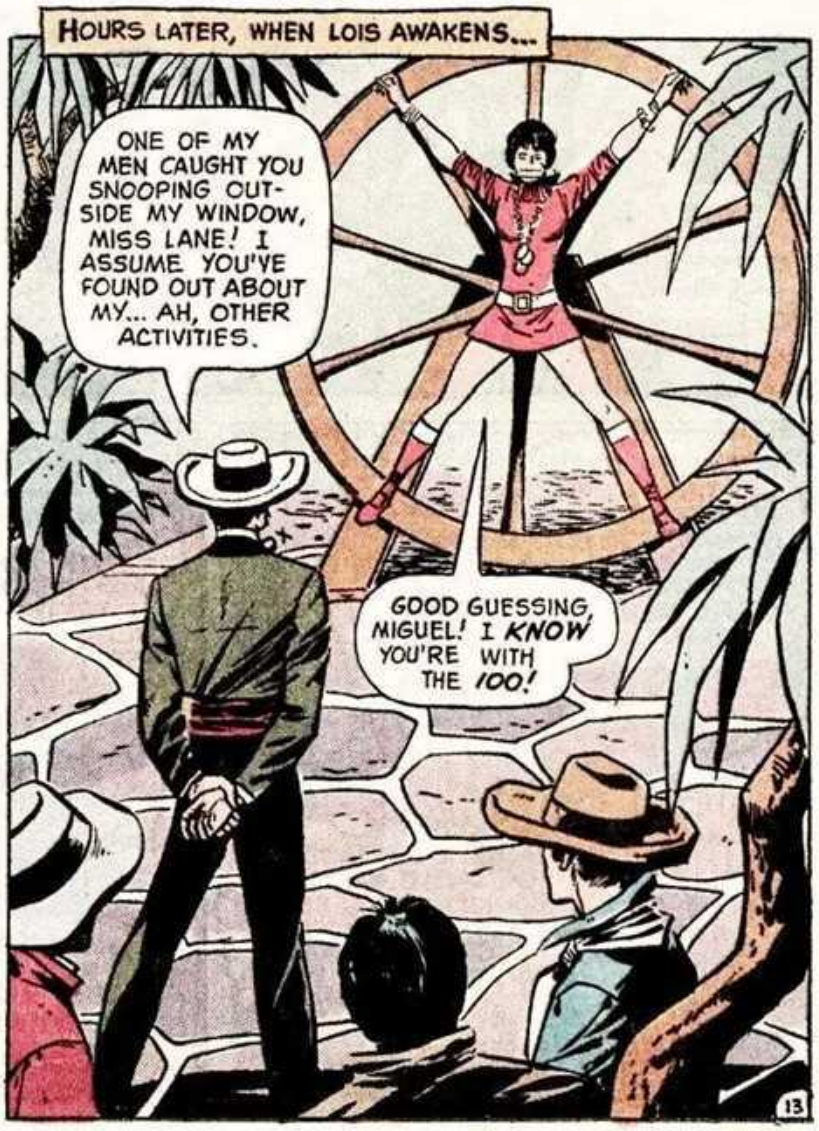
IT'S THE CODE LUCY AND I USED WHEN WE WERE KIDS!
AND THEN...
WHHHOOOSSHH!
YIKES! THAT SOUND! I'VE HEARD IT TOO MANY TIMES BEFORE NOT TO KNOW WHO IT IS!
SUPERMAN!
LOIS! THANK THE STARS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
NOW, LISTEN... I WANT YOU TO LEAVE SAN QUANTOS ON THE VERY NEXT PLANE! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO STAY HERE! I'VE NO TIME TO EXPLAIN!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIDE THE TRUTH FROM ME, SUPERMAN! I... I ALREADY KNOW LUCY WAS A SPY FOR THE 100!
I'M SORRY, LOIS! BUT THIS IS STILL NO PLACE FOR A WOMAN! I'VE GOT TO CRACK THIS SPY-RING OPEN... YOU'LL BE IN THE WAY!
MIGUEL IS THE ONE MAN WHO KNOWS WHAT BECAME OF LUCY! I MUST FIND OUT FOR MYSELF... AND I DON'T WANT SUPERMAN INTERFERING!
THINKING FAST, LOIS COMES UP WITH A CONVINCING LIE...
LISTEN, SUPERMAN! LUCY... ER... LEFT A LETTER FOR ME... AND CONFESSED EVERYTHING!
THE 100 IS...UH... HOLED-UP IN AN UNDERGROUND HIDEOUT AT HOLLOW MOUNTAIN!
YOU SURE? THAT'S 50 MILES SOUTH OF HERE, ALONG THE BORDER!
12

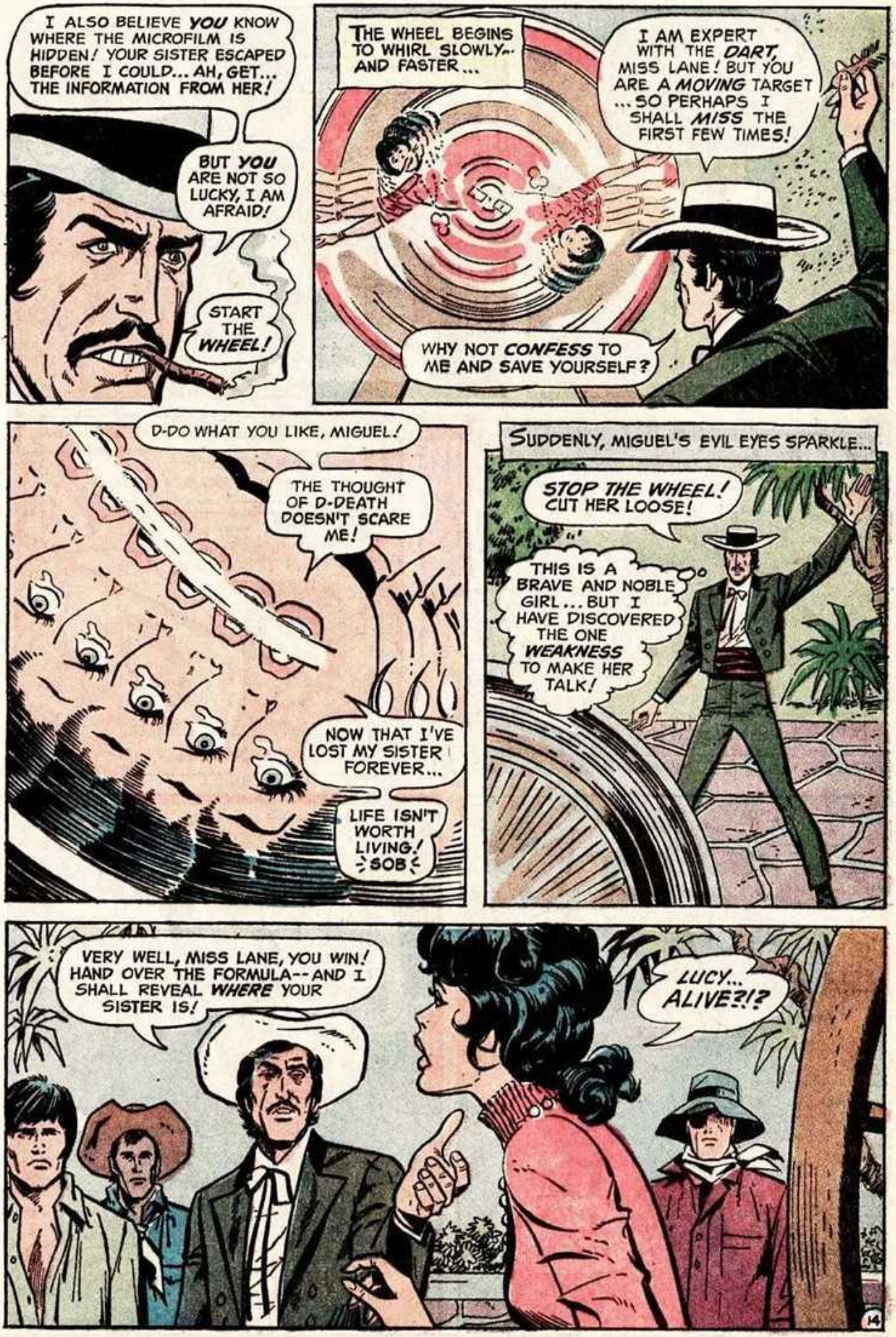
I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I CAN, LOIS! MEANTIME, FOR ONCE IN YOUR LIFE... STAY OUT OF TROUBLE!
OH, WOW! HE FELL FOR IT! HE'S FLYING SOUTH!

AS THE FIRST RAYS OF DAWN FILTER OVER MIGUEL DELBROMA'S ESTATE ...
IF I CAN JUST GET IN WITHOUT BEING SEEN!

CAREFULLY, SHE CLIMBS HER WAY OVER THE ORNATE BALCONIES, UNTIL...
I'M IN LUCK! I FOUND THE RIGHT ROOM!
AND THERE'S MIGUEL! HE'S ABOUT TO GET WAKED UP!

BUT SUDDENLY...
WHAT...? MMMFFF!
THAT SMELL... IT'S CHLOROFORM... TO PUT ME ASLEEP... EVERYTHING... GETTING... BLACK...


HOURS LATER, WHEN LOIS AWAKENS...
ONE OF MY MEN CAUGHT YOU SNOOPING OUTSIDE MY WINDOW, MISS LANE! I ASSUME YOU'VE FOUND OUT ABOUT MY... AH, OTHER ACTIVITIES.
GOOD GUESSING, MIGUEL! I KNOW YOU'RE WITH THE 100!

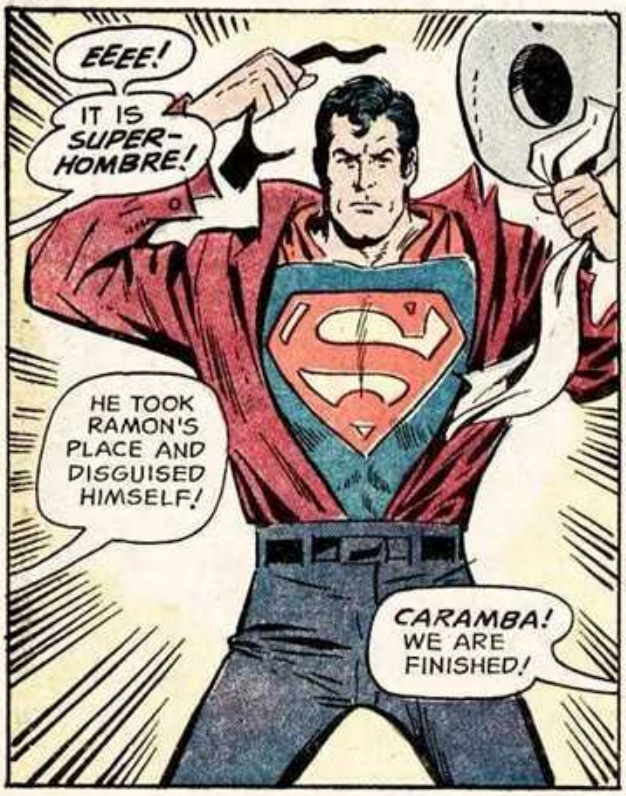

I ALSO BELIEVE YOU KNOW WHERE THE MICROFILM IS HIDDEN! YOUR SISTER ESCAPED BEFORE I COULD... AH, GET... THE INFORMATION FROM HER!
BUT YOU ARE NOT SO LUCKY, I AM AFRAID!
START THE WHEEL!
THE WHEEL BEGINS TO WHIRL SLOWLY... AND FASTER...
I AM EXPERT WITH THE DART, MISS LANE! BUT YOU ARE A MOVING TARGET ...SO PERHAPS I SHALL MISS THE FIRST FEW TIMES!
WHY NOT CONFESS TO ME AND SAVE YOURSELF?
D-DO WHAT YOU LIKE, MIGUEL!
THE THOUGHT OF D-DEATH DOESN'T SCARE ME!
NOW THAT I'VE LOST MY SISTER FOREVER...
LIFE ISN'T WORTH LIVING! SOB
SUDDENLY, MIGUEL'S EVIL EYES SPARKLE...
STOP THE WHEEL! CUT HER LOOSE!
THIS IS A BRAVE AND NOBLE GIRL... BUT I HAVE DISCOVERED THE ONE WEAKNESS TO MAKE HER TALK!
VERY WELL, MISS LANE, YOU WIN! HAND OVER THE FORMULA--AND I SHALL REVEAL WHERE YOUR SISTER IS!
LUCY... ALIVE?!?
14

THE SUDDEN RELIEF AFTER BEING ON THE VERGE OF BREAKDOWN IS MORE THAN LOIS CAN BEAR...
ALL RIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU! BUT YOU MUST KEEP YOUR PROMISE AND TAKE ME TO LUCY!
YOU HAVE MY WORD!
NO, LOIS... DON'T FALL FOR IT!

THE RING! LUCY HID THE MICROFILM INSIDE HER RING!
SO THAT IS WHERE IT WAS!
AN INVISIBLE BEAM OF AN X-RAY VISION FLASHES BETWEEN THEIR HANDS!

READERS-CODE IS ALPHABET RAISED ONE LETTER.

AND AFTER MIGUEL BREAKS OPEN THE RING...
THIS FILM IS WORTHLESS! IT HAS BEEN OVER-EXPOSED!
WOMAN, YOU WILL PAY DEARLY FOR THIS TREACHERY!
NO, DELBROMA--YOU WILL!



NOT YET! HIT HIM WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT! NO ONE CAN BE AS STRONG AS THEY SAY HE IS!
RIGHT, MIGUEL! THOSE STORIES CANNOT BE TRUE!
HE DOES NOT LOOK SO IMPOSSIBLE TO HANDLE!

BUT NO ONE SHOULD EVER UNDERESTIMATE A SUPERMAN!
OBVIOUSLY, YOU FELLAS NEVER SAW ME IN ACTION... OTHERWISE YOU'D HAVE MORE SENSE!

SUPERMAN... YOU WERE HERE ALL ALONG! HOW DID YOU FIND OUT THE TRUTH?
YOU GAVE YOURSELF AWAY, LOIS... BACK IN THE COTTAGE...

"YOU FORGOT THERE WAS A MIRROR BEHIND YOU! IT WAS SIMPLE FOR ME TO READ LUCY'S DIARY BACKWARD... AND TO DECIPHER HER CODE"..
SO, THE FILM IS IN HER RING! I'LL BET SHE KNOWS WHERE THE 100 IS, TOO!
I'LL PRETEND TO LEAVE... THEN CIRCLE BACK AND KEEP A WATCH ON LOIS...

WHEN YOU LED ME TO THORPE, I KNOCKED OUT A CROOK AND BORROWED HIS CLOTHES! BUT WE CAN RELAX, SINCE I FADED THE MICROFILM!
DAMON MONTAGO NOW HAS THE ONLY COPY OF THE FORMULA!
NOT ANY MORE, SUPERMAN!

MONTAGO!
I DESTROYED MY PAPERS! THE WORLD IS NOT YET READY FOR OMEGA POWER! IT COULD PERFORM SCIENTIFIC MIRACLES... BUT IT COULD ALSO WIPE OUT THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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LET'S HOPE IT WON'T ALWAYS BE THAT WAY!
LATER, AFTER MIGUEL AND HIS MEN HAVE BEEN ARRESTED...
LUCY'S DEAD! HER BODY WAS WASHED OUT TO SEA. YOU'VE GOT TO ACCEPT IT. PLEASE COME BACK TO METROPOLIS WITH ME...
NO, SUPERMAN, YOU GO ON WITHOUT ME!
I NEED... A LOT OF TIME...TO THINK ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS...
I HAVE TO BE ALONE...
LOIS! PLEASE, LET ME TAKE YOU BACK...
LOIS!
WHAT'S COME OVER HER? I'VE NEVER SEEN HER ACT THIS WAY...
NOW THAT LUCY IS GONE... MY LIFE CAN NEVER BE THE SAME... NOTHING CAN BE AS IT WAS...
LOIS WALKS ON ALONE...
...INTO THE GATHERING GLOOM...
STARTING WITH THE NEXT ISSUE, YOU'RE GOING TO SEE SOME BIG, BIG CHANGES IN THE FUTURE OF LOIS LANE!
WHAT AWAITS LOIS NOW?
17

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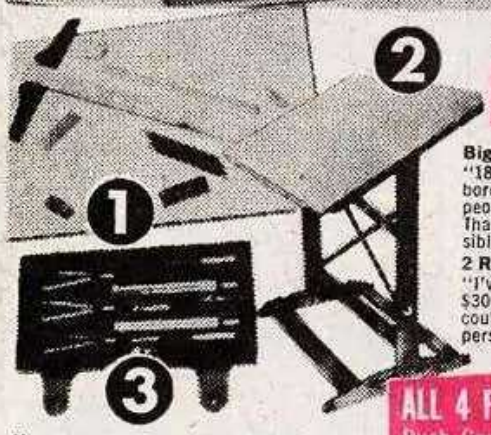

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NIGHT--
THERE'S THE THORN!
--THE HIDDEN SNIPER LEANS IN SINISTER SILENCE... LIKE A VENGEFUL VULTURE... UNSEEN IN THE TANGLED MAZE OF ABANDONED SLUM TENEMENTS...!
I KNEW THAT IF I STAYED HERE--
--I'D CATCH HER SOONER OR LATER --COMIN' BACK FROM HER NIGHTLY HASSLE WITH THE 100!
BUT FOR THE THORN, THIS NIGHT IS A PANDORA'S BOX OF STARTLING SURPRISES...
CREEEEEK!
YOU!!
I FIGURED YOU'D BE COMING BACK TO THE PLACE WHERE YOU STOLE THAT OUTFIT--
--AND THE WEAPONS DESIGNED FOR IT!
AM I HAVING AN HALLUCINATION?
WHERE DID THIS OTHER THORN COME FROM?
N-418

I'LL TAKE THOSE DEVICES--
--FOR MY OWN USE! I'LL TEACH YOU TO STEAL MY GIG!
WHAT IS THIS IMPERSONATOR TALKING ABOUT? I'M -- THE THORN!
Y--UHHHNNN--
THERE'LL BE ONLY ONE THORN LEFT WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH YOU--
LIKE A MIRRORED NIGHTMARE, THE BALEFUL BATTLE SHATTERS THE NIGHT...
--AND THAT'LL BE... ME!
SHE'S STRONG! CRUSHING THE LIFE OUT OF ME!
ROSE AND THE THORN
BLASH!
SCRIPT: ROBERT KANIGHER
ART: RICH BUCKLER
INKS: MIKE ESPOSITO
EDITOR: E. NELSON BRIDWELL

THE THORN'S HOMECOMING IS FILLED WITH HORROR! HER IMPERSONATOR IS A DEADLY DEMONESS... SINISTER AS A SERPENT! THE NOCTURNAL NYMPH FINALLY SEEMS TO HAVE MET HER MATCH... AND SHE LEARNS THAT...

"NOT ALL THORNS COME FROM ROSES!"

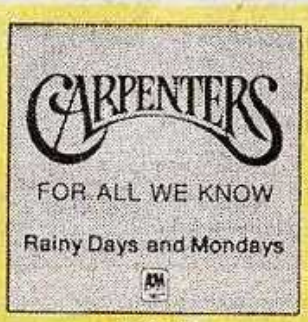
CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING

NOW—YOURS FROM COLUMBIA—

Any 14 of these

If you join now and agree to buy ten more records (at regular Club prices)

208025
3 records count as 2



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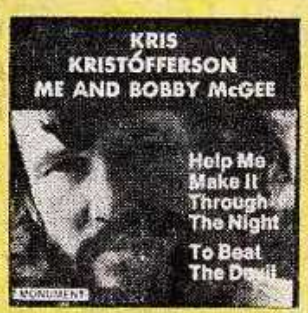

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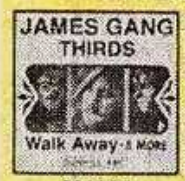

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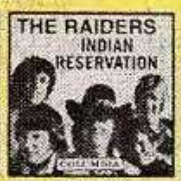

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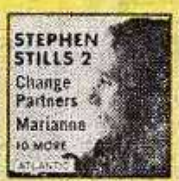

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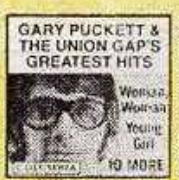

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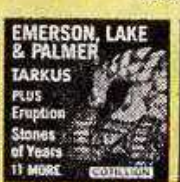

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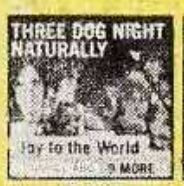

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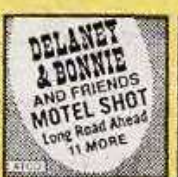

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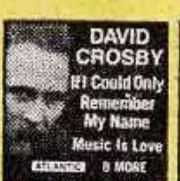

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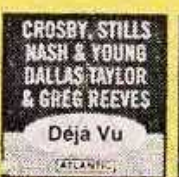

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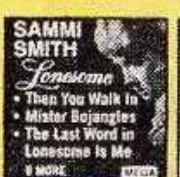

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196725

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hit records FOR ONLY $2.86

during the coming two years (you will have up to 300 records a month to choose from)

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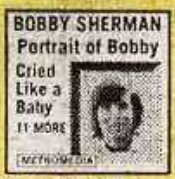

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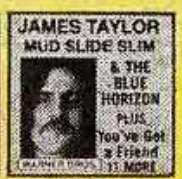

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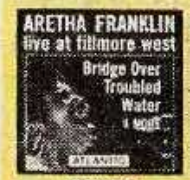

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HERE'S OUR BEST OFFER EVER! Join right now and get ANY 14 of these records for only $2.86! And all you have to do is agree to buy as few as ten records (at the regular Club price) during the coming two years. That's right!—two full years in which to buy your ten records. After doing so, you'll have acquired 24 records—at practically a 50% saving off regular Club prices!

AS A MEMBER you will receive, every four weeks, a copy of the Club's entertaining music magazine. Each issue describes the regular selection for each musical interest and almost 300 other records . . . hit albums from every field of music, from scores of record labels.

HOW TO ORDER. If you do *not* want any record in any month—just tell us so by returning the selection card by the date specified . . . or you may use the card to order any of the records offered. If you want *only* the regular selection for your musical interest, you need do nothing—it will be shipped to you automatically. And from time to time, the Club will offer some special albums, which you may reject by returning the special dated form always provided—or accept by doing nothing.

RECORDS SENT ON CREDIT. Upon enrollment, the Club will open a charge account in your name . . . records will be mailed and billed to you at the regular Club price of $4.98 or $5.98 each, plus processing and postage. (Multi-record sets are somewhat higher.)

FANTASTIC BONUS PLAN. As soon as you complete your enrollment agreement, you may cancel membership whenever you wish. If you continue, you will automatically become eligible for the Club's bonus plan, which entitles you to *one record of your choice free* (plus 25¢ for processing and postage) *for every one you buy thereafter!* So you'll continue to save about 50% of your record dollars!

JUST MAIL THE COUPON together with your check or money order for only $2.86, as payment for your first 14 records. Also be sure to indicate the type of music in which you are mainly interested. Act now!

Columbia Record Club
a service of Columbia House Terre Haute, Indiana 47808

318/F71

COLUMBIA RECORD CLUB, Terre Haute, Indiana 47808

I've enclosed check or money order for $2.86 as payment for the 14 records indicated below. Please accept me as a member. I agree to buy ten records (at regular Club prices) during the coming two years, and may cancel membership at any time thereafter. If I continue, I'll be eligible for your bonus plan.

Send these 14 records—I've enclosed check or money order for $2.86.

All records will be described in advance in the Magazine, sent every four weeks. If I do not want any record, I'll return the selection card by the date specified . . . or use the card to o. er any record I want. If I want only the regular selection for my musical interest, I need do nothing—it will be sent automatically. From time to time, I'll be offered special albums which I may accept or reject by using the dated form provided.

MY MAIN MUSICAL INTEREST IS (check one only):

☐ Easy Listening ☐ Young Sounds ☐ Jazz
☐ Country ☐ Broadway & Hollywood ☐ Classical

☐ Mr.
☐ Miss
☐ Mrs. (Please print) First Name Initial Last Name

Address .....

City .....

State ..... Zip .....

Do you have a telephone? (check one) ☐ YES ☐ NO

APO/FPO addressees: write for special offer (BS-Z) 536

I'M NOT SEEIN' DOUBLE!
THERE ARE TWO THORNS DOWN THERE! BUT--WHICH IS THE REAL ONE?
THE UNSEEN SNIPER SEES THE BATTLE OF THE THORNS COME TO AN END...
IT DIDN'T TAKE ME LONG...
TO PLUCK THIS PHONEY THORN!
NOW I'LL TAKE HER THORN BELT!
SHE'S TRICKIER THAN A JUGGLER--
--BOOBY-TRAPPED IT WITH A SMOKE-THORN!
SSSSSSSS
SHE'S GETTING AWAY FROM ME! CAN'T...SEE--
--BUT THIS SMOKE SCREEN WON'T BUY HER MORE THAN A FEW SECONDS...
I DUNNO WHICH IS THE REAL ONE, BUT--
--I'LL HUNT 'EM DOWN WHILE THEY'RE BATTLIN' EACH OTHER!
4

UNDER COVER OF THE SMOKE-THORN, THE REAL THORN HAS SLIPPED AWAY--
SHE ONLY HAD A FEW SECONDS-- MUST'VE RUN BACK INTO THE COSTUME SHOP--

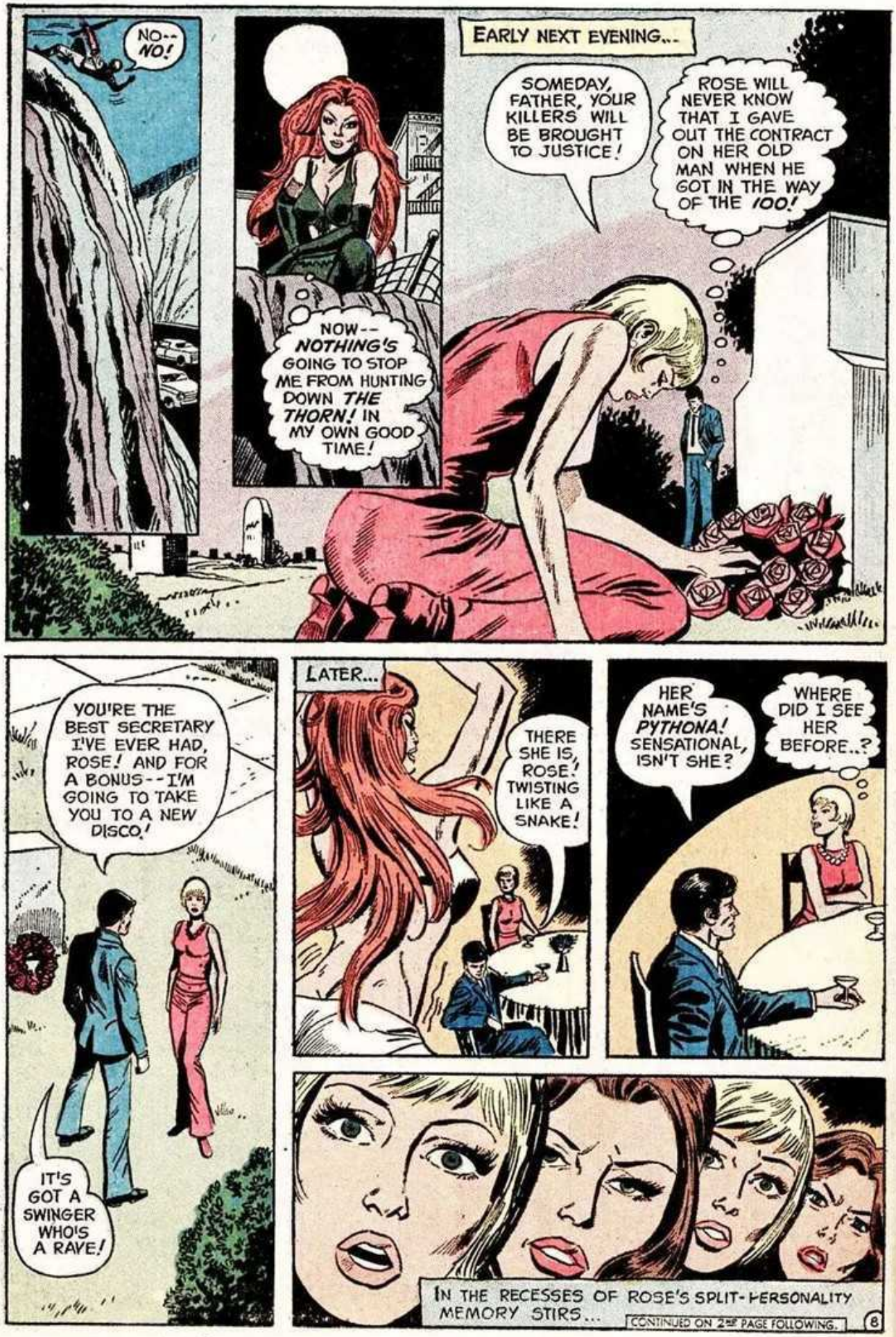
THE *SIREN OF THE SHADOWS* PAUSES IN THE SECRET CORRIDOR SHE HAS MADE GOOD HER ESCAPE IN...

...ROSE FORREST!
FROM WHAT THE OTHER THORN SAID, SHE'S DANGEROUS TO ME!
AND IN A TINY CORNER OF HER MIND, ROSE'S ALTER-EGO PONDERS HER TREACHEROUS NEAR-TWIN...

WHERE DID THE CRIMINAL THORN COME FROM?... IT BEGAN YEARS AGO WHEN HER MOTHER WAS A FRIEND OF COSTUMER ALBERT TALBOT...
I FRONT FOR THE 100! I KNOW ALL THE PLACES THEY'RE GOING TO HIT!
SO YOU'LL ROB THEM FIRST!

THEY'LL NEVER SUSPECT I'M BEHIND IT ALL... AND YOU'LL BE SAFE--WHEN YOU WEAR THIS COSTUME... WITH SPECIAL THORN WEAPONS I'VE BUILT INTO ITS COMPACT SIZE...
BUT LATER...
I'M GETTING TOO BIG A CUT OF THE 100'S CAPERS TO RISK GOING OUT ON MY OWN! LOOK AT THIS ROCK!
FORGET ABOUT MY SCHEME, SWEETHEART!
WHAT ABOUT THE COSTUME YOU MADE FOR ME? AND OUR PLANS?
KEEP IT FOR A MASQUERADE! I'VE GOT A DUPLICATE... AND THE ONLY THORN WEAPONS!
PLUS PLENTY OF EXTRA GIMMICKS THAT GO ALONG WITH IT!
TOO BAD THEY'LL NEVER BE USED!
YEARS LATER, IN PRISON, TALBOT WAS VISITED BY HIS OLD FRIEND...
THE BROAD WHO SENT ME HERE... THE THORN... WEARS THE OUTFIT I MADE FOR YOU!
SHE USES THE THORN WEAPONS, TOO!
WISH I WAS STILL YOUNG ENOUGH TO GO AFTER HER!
BUT I HAVE A DAUGHTER WHO CAN DO IT! AND THE COSTUME YOU GAVE ME!
6

THROUGH THE SECRET PASSAGE-WAY ROSE FORREST WALKS IN A STRANGE SLEEP...
...UNTIL SHE REACHES THE SAFETY OF HER OWN BROWNSTONE ON THE ADJACENT STREET ...THE ONE HER DETEC-, TIVE FATHER BOUGHT FROM TALBOT...
...RELEASED FROM THE OBSESSION WHICH NIGHTLY CHANGES HER WITHOUT HER CONSCIOUS KNOWLEDGE FROM ROSE FOREST INTO THE THORN!
MEANWHILE...
I'VE FINALLY CORNERED YOU, THORN! TELL ME WHERE YOU HID THE MILLION IN LOOT YOU TOOK AFTER I STASHED IT AT TALBOT'S--OR...
I-I'M NOT THE REAL THORN! I'M AFTER HER, TOO!
DON'T TRY TO SNOW ME, THORN!
HERE'S A SLUG TO JOG YOUR MEMORY!
7


NO--NO!
NOW--NOTHING'S GOING TO STOP ME FROM HUNTING DOWN THE THORN! IN MY OWN GOOD TIME!
EARLY NEXT EVENING...
SOMEDAY, FATHER, YOUR KILLERS WILL BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE!
ROSE WILL NEVER KNOW THAT I GAVE OUT THE CONTRACT ON HER OLD MAN WHEN HE GOT IN THE WAY OF THE 100!
YOU'RE THE BEST SECRETARY I'VE EVER HAD, ROSE! AND FOR A BONUS--I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU TO A NEW DISCO!
IT'S GOT A SWINGER WHO'S A RAVE!
LATER...
THERE SHE IS, ROSE! TWISTING LIKE A SNAKE!
HER NAME'S PYTHONA! SENSATIONAL, ISN'T SHE?
WHERE DID I SEE HER BEFORE..?
IN THE RECESSES OF ROSE'S SPLIT-PERSONALITY MEMORY STIRS...
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.
8

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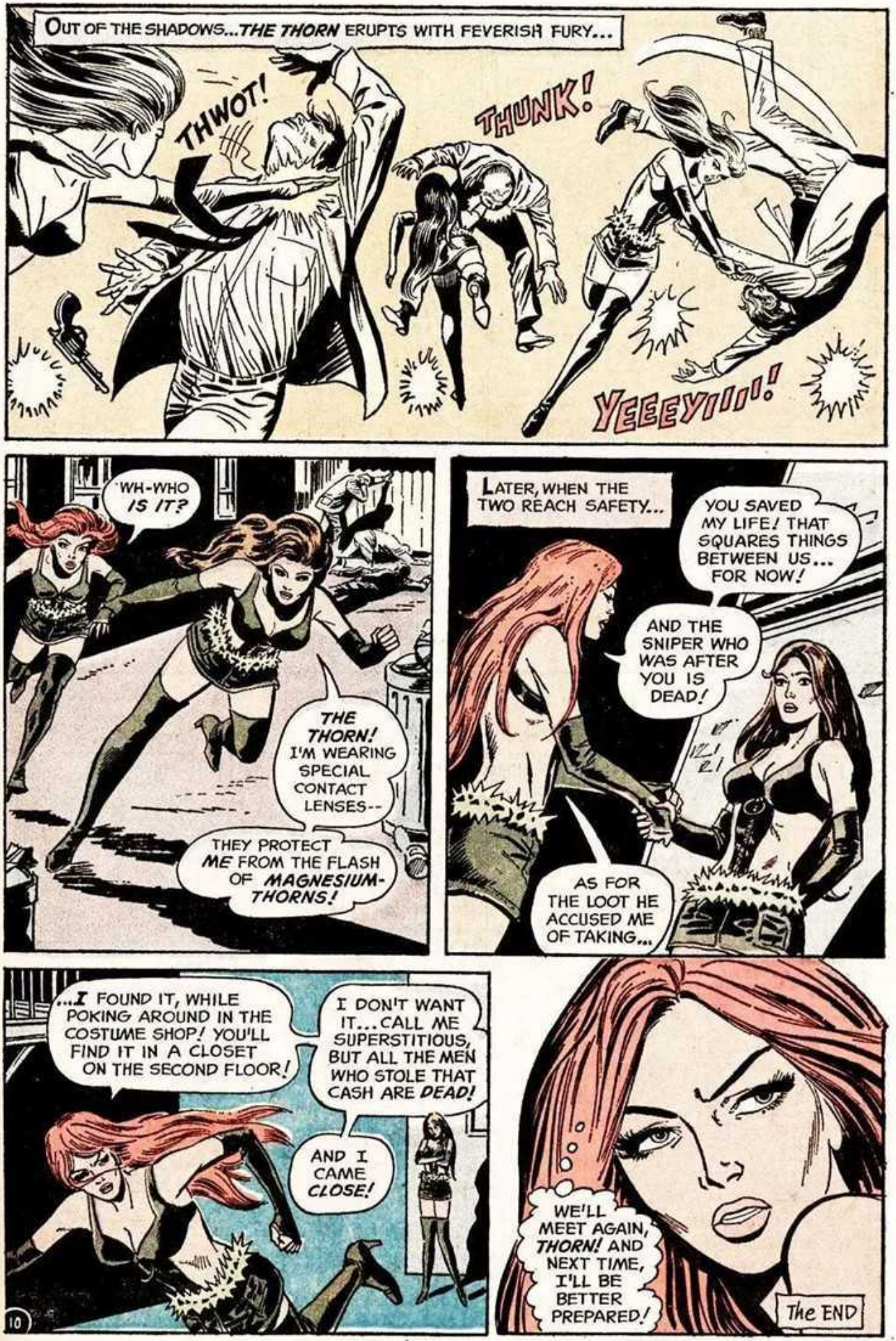
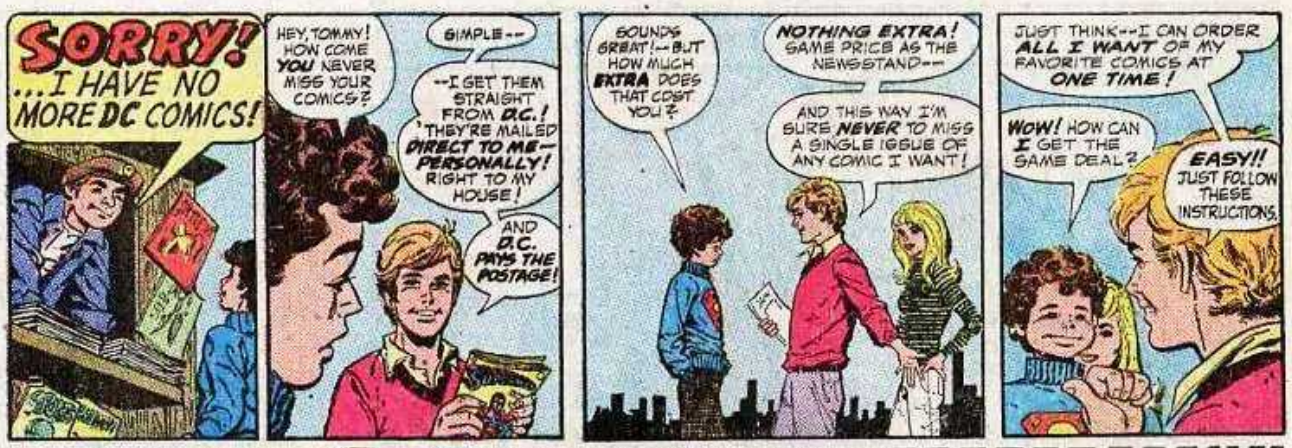
LATE THAT NIGHT...
--DRIVEN BY HER SUBCONSCIOUS OBSESSION TO AVENGE THE MURDER OF HER DETECTIVE FATHER--
--ROSE CHANGES TO THE THORN!
MEANWHILE...IN THE STEEL AND CONCRETE JUNGLE OF METROPOLIS...
SHE'S CORNERED!
THERE'S A CONTRACT OUT ON YOU!
AN' WE'RE COLLECTIN' NOW, THORN!
Y-YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE! I'M NOT THE THORN!
WHAT ARE YOU... A PORCUPINE? HA, HA, HA!
WHERE'D THAT BLINDING FLASH COME FROM?
CAN'T SEE!
PTOOK!
9


OUT OF THE SHADOWS...THE THORN ERUPTS WITH FEVERISH FURY...
THWOT!
THUNK!
YEEEYIIII!
WH-WHO IS IT?
THE THORN! I'M WEARING SPECIAL CONTACT LENSES--
THEY PROTECT ME FROM THE FLASH OF MAGNESIUM-THORNS!
LATER, WHEN THE TWO REACH SAFETY...
YOU SAVED MY LIFE! THAT SQUARES THINGS BETWEEN US... FOR NOW!
AND THE SNIPER WHO WAS AFTER YOU IS DEAD!
AS FOR THE LOOT HE ACCUSED ME OF TAKING...
...I FOUND IT, WHILE POKING AROUND IN THE COSTUME SHOP! YOU'LL FIND IT IN A CLOSET ON THE SECOND FLOOR!
I DON'T WANT IT... CALL ME SUPERSTITIOUS, BUT ALL THE MEN WHO STOLE THAT CASH ARE DEAD!
AND I CAME CLOSE!
WE'LL MEET AGAIN, THORN! AND NEXT TIME, I'LL BE BETTER PREPARED!
The END
10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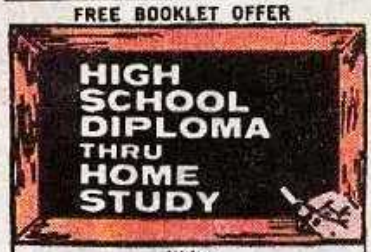

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LOIS LANE
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FROM: SUPERMAN #29 (JULY-AUG., 1944)
B-130
HI, FELLOW WAGE SLAVES!
GOSH! GOOD THING YUH GOT HERE--THE CHIEF HAS AN IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU!
YES, AND STEVE, HERE SAYS IT'S SOMETHING BIG!
HO, HO! WAIT UNTIL SHE LEARNS SHE'S TO WRITE A BAKE SHOP INTERVIEW FOR MRS. TWIPP'S "HOUSEWIVES' MARKETING HINTS" COLUMN, WHILE MRS. TWIPP IS ILL! WILL SHE BURN UP!
I'M AFRAID SHE WON'T LIKE OUR SENSE OF HUMOR!
GO AHEAD AND GRIN, YOU TWO HYENAS--BUT SOMEDAY THIS WORM WILL TURN AND THEN YOU CHESTY BIRDS WILL--OH, SKIP IT!
HO, HO! I HOPE SUPERMAN PROTECTS YOU ON YOUR DANGEROUS ASSIGNMENT--BAKE SHOP INTERVIEW--MY, MY! A DOUGHNUT MIGHT SNAP AT YOU!
IMAGINE! "WRITE A NICE COZY HOME-BODY ARTICLE," SAYS THE CHIEF. WHAT AM I--A REPORTER, OR A FUDDY-DUDDY!
PRESENTLY...
THERE'S THE SHOP I'M SUPPOSED TO WRITE UP. I MAY BE VAIN, BRINGING ALONG THESE DARK GLASSES--BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE RECOGNIZED BY CASEY OR SOME OTHER COP--I'VE HAD ENOUGH KIDDING ABOUT THIS ASSIGNMENT ALREADY!
GRATZ BAKERY
BAKERY
1
("-WELL, THAT'S ONE FOR THE BOOK! 'FINGERS' GORDON, THE CARD SHARP, GOING DOMESTIC. THE DAILY PLANET HELPED GET HIM A TWO-YEAR STRETCH ONCE!-")
AKERY

("- AND "PINBALL" MIGGSY, THE RACE TRACK TOUT CLARK POINTED OUT TO ME ONCE! OH, WELL, NO ACCOUNTING FOR HUMAN NATURE. I'LL GO IN AND GET MY INTERVIEW FROM THE BAKER!-")
MINUTES LATER...
THANKS FOR THE INTERVIEW, MR. GRATZ. BUT I DON'T SEE WHY YOU'RE SO BALKY ABOUT THE PLANET PUBLISHING YOUR LINE OF BAKE-STUFFS -- IT'S PRACTICALLY FREE ADVERTISING!
WELL, I GUESS I'M-- ER-- WELL, JUST ONE O' DEM BASHFUL SORT O'GUYS!
BEFORE LEAVING THE SHOP...
HMMM. I SUPPOSE I SHOULD TAKE ALONG A LOAF OF BREAD OR SOMETHING -- MRS. TWIPP ALWAYS TRIES THINGS OUT FOR HER COLUMN!
I'LL TAKE THIS LOAF, PLEASE!
HEY, YOU! I MEAN, LADY, YOU CAN'T DO THAT! PUT THAT BREAD DOWN!
WHY...WHY, THE IDEA -- SNATCHING IT FROM ME LIKE THAT!
SORRY, LADY, BUT DIS LOAF AIN'T--ER-- FRESH ENOUGH T' GO OUT! I'LL GIT YUH ANOTHER!
HERE, I'LL GIVE YUH ONE FROM DIS PILE-- STRIC'LY FRESH!
WELL-- WELL, ALL RIGHT!
("- SOMETHING'S MIGHTY QUEER ABOUT THIS PLACE. CROOKS PATRONIZE IT-- THE BAKER'S GRUFF AND NON-COMMUNICATIVE-- THE CLERK'S SURLY. AND WHY WAS THAT FIRST LOAF LEFT ON THE COUNTER, IF NOT FOR SALE?-")
2

WONDER WHAT THAT "PINBALL" SLICKER IS BUYING... WH-- WHY THE CLERK'S SELLING HIM THE VERY LOAF HE REFUSED ME!
I'VE GOT TO FIGURE SOME WAY OF GETTING A CLOSER LOOK AT THAT HUNK OF BAKED WHEAT PRODUCT!
THEN A HASTILY CONCEIVED AND EXECUTED RUSE...
UH! HEY, LOOK OUT WHERE YER GOIN'!
OH! I TWISTED MY ANKLE! ("— IF MY SUSPICIONS PROVE WRONG, I HOPE I'M MAKING THIS ANKLE GAG LOOK REAL!—)
HEY! THAT'S MY LOAF YER PICKIN' UP!
OH, I'M SORRY-- BUT THEN, THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE! OR IS THERE?
GIMME THAT BREAD OR... OH, OH NOW YOU'RE IN THE SOUP-- GRATZ! TRIGGER! C'MERE AN' HELP ME HANDLE DIS DAME!
("— I WOULD GET INTO SOMETHING LIKE THIS-- OH, WHERE IS SUPERMAN!—")
YOU BONEHEAD! YOU'VE GUMMED THE WORKS IF WE DON'T GET RID O' DIS DAME! DAMES IS POISON!
HELP, SOMEONE, HELP!
POW!
3
WHAT A BREAK! IT'S NOONAN AND CARMODY!
COPS! EVERYONE FER HIMSELF NOW!
HEY, WHAT GOES ON?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE UP TO, MISS LANE, BUT WE'RE ALWAYS WILLIN' T' DISH OUT A FEW LUMPS FER A LADY!
O-U-OW!
BUT THAT'S NOT POLITE, IS IT?
OFF!
GOOD WORK, MISS LANE. SUPERMAN HIMSELF COULDN'T HAVE DONE NEATER!
THANKS FOR THE BLARNEY, CARMODY--BUT THERE ARE THINGS TO BE LOOKED INTO IN YON BAKE SHOPPY!
AND AFTER THE PATROL WAGON HAS COME AND LEFT...
YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT, MISS LANE. UNDER OUR VERY NOSES GRATZ WAS OPERATING THE LOTTERY RING WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO SMASH!
YES. HIS HENCHMEN GOT THEIR LOTTERY SLIPS AND THE PAY-OFF'S INSIDE THE "DOCTORED" LOAVES. INNOCENT CUSTOMERS WERE SOLD REGULAR BREAD, THE SAME AS AT ANY BAKERY!
SOME MINUTES LATER...
AH! I BET YOU'RE SIMPLY AGOG WITH EXCITING INFORMATION ON HOW TO BAKE BUNS, CRUMPETS, AND SO FORTH. HO, HO!
AND HOW!!
4
OKAY, CHIEF!
YOU BET! AND DON'T BE TOO MODEST IN THE WAY YOU WRITE IT. GREAT WORK!
GOSH! MISS LANE SURE GETS RESULTS!
By Lois Lane
One of the towns most vicious gambling rackets was smashed this morning when your reporter secured evidence...
HEY, BARD, GET A WIGGLE ON, AND COVER THAT "HOUSEWIVES" ASSIGNMENT FOR THE NEXT EDITION. MISS LANE'S BUSY!
AW GEE, CHIEF!
AND YOU MIGHT BRUSH UP ON A LITTLE QUOTATION THAT GOES SOMETHING LIKE, "HE WHO HEE-HEES LAST, TEE-HEES BEST!"--TEE-HEE!
The END

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

WE ALL KNOW LOIS LANE, THE HARD-HEADED, AMBITIOUS REPORTER OF THE **DAILY PLANET!** BUT HOW MANY OF US ARE AWARE OF **ANOTHER** SIDE OF LOIS' MANY-FACETED PERSONALITY-HER WARMTH, HUMANITY AND SYMPATHY FOR THE LUCKLESS ONES WHO ARE STRUCK DOWN BY MISFORTUNE AND ILL-HEALTH? YES, READER, YOU ARE ABOUT TO ENCOUNTER A DIFFERENT SORT OF GIRL WHEN YOU MEET...

LOIS LANE-VOLUNTEER NURSE!

FROM: LOIS LANE #43, AUG., 1963

THEY SAY PATIENTS ALWAYS FALL IN LOVE WITH THEIR NURSES! JUDGING FROM THIS SKETCH LIEUTENANT HUNT DREW WHICH SHOWS ME AS **HIS** BRIDE, I GUESS THAT SAYING IS TRUE!

Schaffenberger

D-760

LATE ONE AFTERNOON, IN THE OFFICE OF PERRY WHITE, EDITOR OF THE **PLANET**...

HURRY UP IF YOU WANT ME TO SNAP THIS PICTURE, JIMMY! I'VE VOLUNTEERED AS A NURSE'S AIDE IN MY SPARE EVENINGS AND I'VE GOT TO BE THERE IN AN HOUR!

IN A SECOND, LOIS! THIS BALL AND CHAIN STUFF SHOULD LOOK GREAT WITH MY SUNDAY ARTICLE ON OBSOLETE PRISON CUSTOMS!

BUT AS FATE HAS IT, THE DOOR IS FLUNG OPEN, AND PERRY WHITE STRIDES IN...

PERRY! WATCH OUT!

OMIGOSH! H-HE'S TRIPPED OVER THE CHAIN...

OWWW!

SHORTLY...
GOLLY! IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE A BROKEN LEG! JIMMY... PHONE A DOCTOR!
IDIOT! SINCE WHEN IS MY OFFICE A PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO? ...GROAN!... Y-YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, JAMES OLSEN! I'LL CUT YOUR SALARY IN HALF!
AS THE DOCTOR ARRIVES...
IT'S A BREAK, ALL RIGHT! YOU'LL HAVE TO BE HOSPITALIZED SO I CAN RESET THE BONE!
CRRACKK!
GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST! I CAN'T GO TO ANY GOSH-DARN HOSPITAL! I'VE GOT A NEWSPAPER TO GET OUT--OWWWW!
NOW YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO GO! YOU'VE JUST BROKEN YOUR HAND!
SEE WHAT COMES OF HAVING A BAD TEMPER, PERRY? WELL, I MUST RUSH TO THE HOSPITAL MYSELF!
I ONLY HOPE I DON'T HAVE YOU FOR A PATIENT, YOU CANTANKEROUS OLD SLAVE-DRIVER!
PRESENTLY, WHEN THE STRETCHER-BEARERS SHOW UP...
MERE BROKEN BONES CAN'T PUT ME OUT OF COMMISSION! I'LL RUN THIS PAPER FROM THE HOSPITAL! KENT, I WANT MY HOSPITAL ROOM CONVERTED INTO AN OFFICE! SEND IN DICTAPHONES, A TELETYPE, TWO SECRETARIES... THE WORKS!
YES, CHIEF!
LATER THAT EVENING, AS VOLUNTEER NURSE LOIS LANE MAKES HER ROUNDS...
DON'T WORRY, HONEY... YOU WON'T FALL! IF YOU KEEP EXERCISING THOSE WEAK LEG MUSCLES, YOU'LL BE WALKING FINE IN NO TIME!
THANK YOU, MISS LANE! WITH YOU TO ENCOURAGE ME, I'M SURE I'LL MAKE IT!
THEN, IN THE CHILDREN'S WARD...
GOLLY, MISS LANE, YOU DIDN'T FORGET TO ASK SUPERMAN FOR AN AUTOGRAPHED POSTER!
'NOPE! SEE WHAT SUPERMAN WROTE TO ALL OF YOU?
To the Children in Ward C... Get Well Soon! Fondly, Superman!
2

PRESENTLY, IN ANOTHER PATIENT'S ROOM, AS LOIS READS THE NEWSPAPER TO HIM...
"...AND SO THE 14-KARAT GANG, WHICH SPECIALIZES IN STEALING RARE AND UNUSUAL LOOT, PULLED ANOTHER INGENIOUS ROBBERY!
GEE! I WONDER WHO THE MASTERMIND IS?
DAILY PLANET
LATER, LOIS MEETS CLARK KENT OUTSIDE PERRY'S SUITE...
PSSTT... CLARK! HOW'S POOR JIMMY DOING?
PERRY HASN'T FORGIVEN HIM YET! HE'S DEMOTED JIMMY TO COPY BOY! BUT YOU MUST GET A LOAD OF PERRY'S NEW "OFFICE"! HE'S INSTALLED EVERYTHING HERE FROM A TELETYPE TO A SWITCH-BOARD!
PERRY WHI EDITOR DAILY PLAN
AMAZING! YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO QUIT!
A NEWSPAPERMAN NEVER QUITS! CLARK, DROP EVERYTHING AND CONCENTRATE ON THE 14-KARAT GANG! PHONE ME THE INSTANT YOU PICK UP A LEAD!... NOW GET MOVING!
YES, CHIEF! SO LONG, LOIS!
HMM... YOU HAVEN'T EATEN A THING!
BAH! WHO CAN EAT THIS SLOP! I'D RATHER STARVE!... HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE? YOU CAN'T BRING IN THAT IRON LUNG! THIS IS A PRIVATE SUITE!
SHH, MR. WHITE! WHEN I LEARNED YOU WERE A PATIENT HERE, I INSISTED ON LT. HUNT SHARING THE ROOM WITH YOU! I'LL EXPLAIN WHEN WE'RE ALONE!
HMM... THIS PATIENT SURE IS GOOD-LOOKING! I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO MAKE HIM WIND UP IN AN IRON LUNG?
SHORTLY AFTER LOIS LEAVES, AND LT. HUNT IS GIVEN A SEDATIVE...
MR. WHITE, I'M SURGEON-GENERAL BLAIR, ATTACHED TO THE PENTAGON! AS AMERICA'S MOST RESPECTED EDITOR, I KNOW YOU CAN KEEP A TOP MILITARY SECRET! THIS X-RAY WILL EXPLAIN WHY THE PENTAGON COULDN'T BRING LT. HUNT TO A PUBLIC OR ARMY HOSPITAL!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.
3

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SEE THAT STRANGE BULLET IN THE LUNG AREA? IT'S MADE OF A SECRET ALLOY AND WAS FIRED BY A FOREIGN AGENT FROM A REVOLVER WHICH HAS A RANGE OF FIVE MILES! THAT'S WHY THE PENTAGON HAD ME TAKE HUNT TO A PRIVATE HOSPITAL WHERE NO ENEMY SPIES WOULD DREAM OF LOOKING FOR HIM! IF THEY FOUND HIM, THEY'D WANT TO REMOVE THE BULLET BEFORE OUR SCIENTISTS CAN STUDY IT!

THE BULLET, AS YOU SAW, IS LODGED IN A VITAL SPOT, AFFECTING HUNT'S ABILITY TO BREATHE! THAT'S WHY HE NEEDS THIS IRON LUNG! BUT IF ANY AMERICAN SURGEON TRIED TO EXTRACT THIS BULLET, HUNT WOULD DIE ON THE OPERATING TABLE!
THEN HOW WILL YOU GET IT OUT?

THERE'S ONLY ONE PHYSICIAN... DR. RIVERA IN MEXICO CITY... WHO CAN PERFORM THIS OPERATION SUCCESSFULLY! AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, LT. HUNT MUST BE FLOWN THERE. IF HUNT DIES, THE C.I.A WILL LOSE ITS FINEST UNDERCOVER MAN!
U.S.

YOU SEE, HUNT CAUGHT THE BULLET WHILE TRAILING SABOTEURS! BUT WHAT A MILITARY RECORD HE COMPILED! YET, HE'S THE WORLD'S MOST MODEST MAN! HE FOUGHT IN VIET-NAM AND KNOCKED DOWN FIVE MIGS! TELLS EVERYBODY HE'S AN ARTIST... WHICH HE WAS BEFORE JOINING THE ARMY!

SO DO ME A FAVOR, WHITE! KEEP AN EYE ON HUNT WHENEVER I'M OUT CHECKING WITH THE PENTAGON AND ARRANGING FOR HIS FLIGHT TO DR. RIVERA!
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, GENERAL!

THAT NIGHT, AS LOIS COMPLETES HER ROUNDS AND CHECKS ON PERRY'S ROOM-MATE...
OHH! HIS EYES ARE OPENING!
GOSH! I-I WAS JUST DREAMING OF AN ANGEL... AND HERE SHE IS... ALIVE... STANDING BEFORE ME...

NEXT DAY, AS LOIS GIVES LT. HUNT A SPONGE BATH...
NURSE, MEETING YOU IS THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME! AND TO THINK IT TOOK AN IRON LUNG TO BRING US TOGETHER! HOW BITTER TO FIND WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR ALL MY LIFE, JUST WHEN MY LIFE IS ENDING!
HUSH! SOME DAY YOU'LL BE OUT OF THIS LUNG... AND IT'LL ONLY SEEM LIKE A BAD MEMORY!
THAT NIGHT, AS LOIS VISITS HER PATIENT AGAIN...
THANKS FOR BRINGING ME THIS DRAWING PAPER AND PEN, MISS LANE! BUT DON'T LEAVE! I LOVE TALKING TO YOU...
I'LL BE FINISHED IN AN HOUR! THEN WE'LL CHAT ALL YOU LIKE!
HE'S SO CHARMING!
LATER...
GOSH, YOU'VE BEEN BUSY! YOUR DRAWINGS ARE BEAUTIFUL... BUT THERE'S ONE PICTURE YOU HAVEN'T SHOWN ME!
I CAN'T, LOIS! IT'S TOO PERSONAL!
GENERAL BLAIR WAS RIGHT ABOUT HUNT'S MODESTY! HE'S STILL TOLD LOIS NOTHING ABOUT HIS MILITARY CAREER! SHE THINKS HE'S AN ARTIST!
BUT LATER, AS LT. HUNT FALLS ASLEEP AND THE SKETCH DROPS FROM HIS LIMP HAND...
NO WONDER HUNT DIDN'T LET LOIS LOOK AT THIS DRAWING! IT REVEALS HE'S FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HER!
ZZZZ... OH, LOIS... BEAUTIFUL LOIS... ZZZ... YOU'D THINK I WERE MAD IF I TOLD YOU MINE WAS A CASE OF LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT... ZZZ
GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST! HE'S TALKING ABOUT LOIS... IN HIS SLEEP!
I'D ASK YOU TO MARRY ME... BUT HOW CAN I... IN MY CONDITION? ZZZ... BUT I'LL LEAVE EVERYTHING I OWN TO YOU... ALL MY EFFECTS, DEAR LOIS. WHO KNOWS SO LITTLE ABOUT ME!
...HOW CRUEL LIFE IS THAT I CAN'T SAY WHAT'S IN MY HEART! ...ZZZ... IT'S NOT FAIR FOR A DOOMED MAN TO ASK FOR YOUR LOVE, LOIS... ZZZ... YOU'D ONLY CARE FOR ME OUT OF PITY...
LOIS IS ON THE PLANET NIGHT SHIFT THIS EVENING! I MUST PHONE HER TO RUSH OVER AND HEAR THIS!
5

PRESENTLY, AS LOIS LISTENS...
ZZZ... I'M SO AFRAID OF BEING FLOWN TO DR. RIVERA... ENEMY SABOTEURS MIGHT DESTROY MY PLANE! I KNOW I'D BE SAFE IF SUPERMAN TRANSPORTED ME... ZZZ... BUT HOW CAN I ASK LOIS TO ARRANGE THAT? SHE DOESN'T KNOW I LOVE HER...
PERRY! YOU WEREN'T JOKING! THIS MAN CARES FOR ME!

OF COURSE! WHY ELSE WOULD HE DRAW THIS SKETCH! HE DIDN'T LET YOU SEE IT BECAUSE ALL HIS HOPES AND DREAMS ARE PORTRAYED IN IT! HE'S TOO SHY TO REVEAL HIS TRUE FEELINGS!

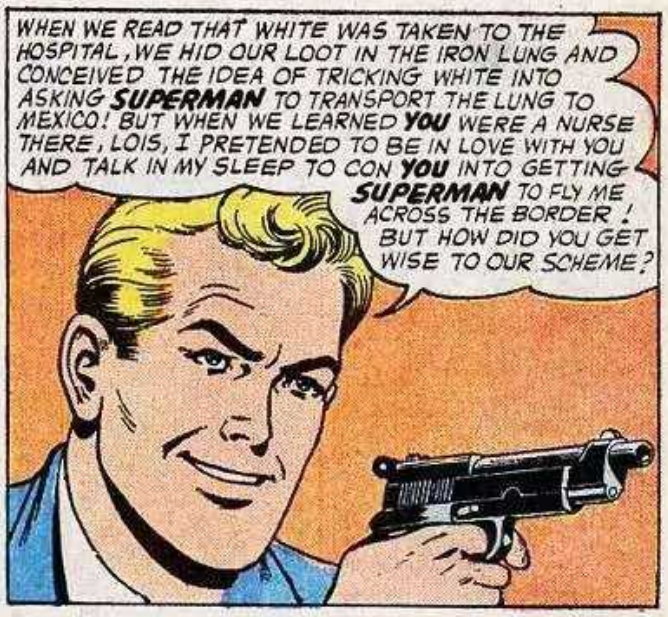
BUT LOIS LOVES SUPERMAN... ZZZ ...SO WHY WOULD SHE WANT TO HELP ME?... ZZZ
PERRY! WE MUST GET SUPERMAN TO FLY LT. HUNT TO MEXICO! YOU MUST CONTACT HIM AT ONCE!
YES... AS SOON AS I FINISH THIS WONDERFUL CHICKEN DRUMSTICK!

NEXT MORNING...
I SPOKE TO GENERAL BLAIR LAST NIGHT! HE JETTED DOWN TO MEXICO TO ARRANGE FOR THE OPERATION! THIS IS RIVERA'S ADDRESS...
OKAY... I'VE READ IT WITH MY SUPER-VISION! DON'T WORRY ABOUT HUNT! THIS SPECIAL OXYGEN-FILLED PLASTIC CASE I FASHIONED FOR HIS LEAD-LINED LUNG WILL PROTECT HIM DURING THE FLIGHT!

THAT NIGHT, WHEN LOIS GOES ON DUTY AGAIN...
EVENING, LOIS! MEET MY NEW ROOM-MATE! ANOTHER IRON-LUNG CASE! HUNT DID SO WELL HERE, THE HOSPITAL FIGURED HE'LL BE LUCKY, TOO!
HOLY CATS! I-I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING! I'LL BE BACK LATER, PERRY!

HOURS LATER, IN AN AIRLINER ON WHICH LOIS' SISTER, LUCY LANE, IS STEWARDESS...
I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO GET YOU ABOARD AT THE LAST MINUTE! BUT WHAT IF YOUR HUNCH IS WRONG, LOIS?
I'LL LEARN THE TRUTH SOON ENOUGH WHEN I REACH DR. RIVERA'S OFFICE!

AS LOIS ARRIVES AT DR. RIVERA'S...
HUNT! ;GASP!; YOU'RE NOT SICK!
PAUL! LOOK WHO'S HERE! OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL... LOIS LANE!
IT WAS A HOAX, LOIS! THAT X-RAY "GENERAL BLAIR." ALIAS "DR. RIVERA", SHOWED PERRY WAS A PHONEY! WE'RE THE 14-KARAT GANG! WE HAD A PROBLEM AFTER OUR LAST ROBBERY... HOW TO SMUGGLE THIS LOOT OUT OF THE COUNTRY!
DR. RIVERA

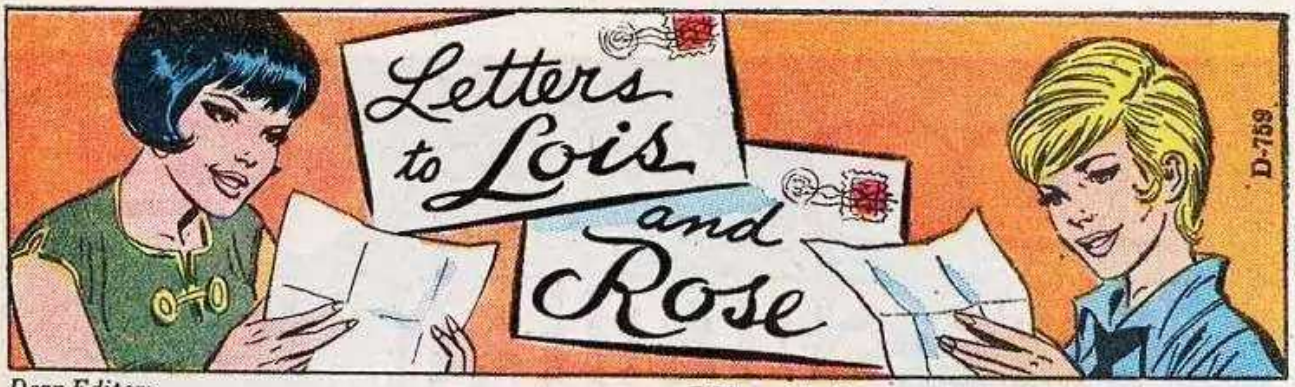

WHEN WE READ THAT WHITE WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL, WE HID OUR LOOT IN THE IRON LUNG AND CONCEIVED THE IDEA OF TRICKING WHITE INTO ASKING SUPERMAN TO TRANSPORT THE LUNG TO MEXICO! BUT WHEN WE LEARNED YOU WERE A NURSE THERE, LOIS, I PRETENDED TO BE IN LOVE WITH YOU AND TALK IN MY SLEEP TO CON YOU INTO GETTING SUPERMAN TO FLY ME ACROSS THE BORDER! BUT HOW DID YOU GET WISE TO OUR SCHEME?

WELL, I WAS A BIT SUSPICIOUS WHEN PERRY TOLD ME YOU WERE A SECRET AGENT! THE C.I.A. SCREENS ITS MEN CAREFULLY, SO I KNEW THEY WOULDN'T HIRE A SPY WHO TALKS IN HIS SLEEP! AND YESTERDAY, WHEN THEY WHEELED IN A REAL IRON-LUNG CASE, I SUDDENLY REMEMBERED AN IRON-LUNG PATIENT ALWAYS HAS HIS ARMS INSIDE THE LUNG, WHILE YOUR ARMS DANGLED OUTSIDE!
SMART GIRL, EH, HUNT? TOO BAD SHE'S GOT TO DIE!
CLICK!

NEXT MOMENT, BENEATH THE OFFICE...
SO LONG, LOVE OF MY LIFE! IT'S A PITY THAT SOON YOU'LL BE DROWNED!

SUDDENLY...
DON'T BET ONE CENT ON IT, FRIEND!
;GASP!... IT'S SUPERMAN! WE'RE CAUGHT! BUT HOW DID HE KNOW LOIS LANE WAS IN TROUBLE?
WHAMMM!

NEXT DAY, AS PERRY WHITE ASKS THE SAME QUESTION...
IT'S SIMPLE, PERRY! YOU SEE, JIMMY OWED ME A FAVOR BECAUSE IT WAS REALLY I WHO THOUGHT OF BRINGING YOU THAT DINNER! SO I ASKED JIMMY TO LEND ME HIS SIGNAL-WATCH IN CASE I NEEDED HELP! WHEN I HIT THE WATER, I PUSHED THE SONIC BUTTON... AND ZEE-ZEE-ZEE... SUPERMAN ARRIVED!
YOU MUST ADMIT LOIS HAS A 14-KARAT TALENT, PERRY! WHAT OTHER VOLUNTEER NURSE COULD TURN THE 14-KARAT GANG'S DREAMS TO FOOL'S GOLD?
The End



Dear Editor:

Well, I wondered how you were going to get out of it—now I know! *Morgan Edge*—the new boss of *Clark* and *Lois*—is a desperate criminal. And neither of them suspects it!

But you're dropping clues—most recently in *Lois Lane* #116. On page 2, *Edge* looks into that trick mirror in his penthouse. When he turns away, the reflection doesn't move. The answer? The rotten guy we've been hating for a year is a fake *Morgan Edge*, an agent of *Darkseid*. The good *Edge* is a prisoner.

Now, Recommendation Time. Drop the *Daily Planet* bit. *Lois* has a good job as hostess of *People—U.S.A.* And as soon as *Edge* gets out from behind that mirror, why not have him fall for *LL*? Conflicts make great plots. And get her out of *Metropolis* for a while. *People—U.S.A.* could go *on the road* for a while—sort of a female Charles Kurault, eh?

Greg Cole, Carrollton, Ohio

(There's a big change *coming in* Lois' *life—in the* next issue*! In the wake of her sister's death, Lois decides that she wants to—but we're not telling you yet! You'll have to buy the April* Lois *to find out. And while we're at it, we don't know how long* Darkseid *will be around, but you can look for a confrontation between* Morgan Edge *and his evil double in an early issue of* Jimmy Olsen. *—E.N.B.)*

*****

Dear Editor:

Just a short letter—concerning the latest *Lois Lane*.

The reason I bought the magazine is for the *Thorn* feature, which is quite good. The artwork was very well handled by Mr. Giordano, and although the story was not *great* by itself, it was very good considering the appeal that *Thorn* has as a new character. I am particularly excited by the credits in the latest *Thorn* story (*LL* #116). It says:

Art: Dick Giordano*

*With a special "thank you" to Jeff Jones.

Jeff Jones is brilliant, and it does my heart good to know that he does relate himself somewhat to DC's productions.

We need an insight into *Thorn's* thoughts. Doesn't she ever wonder what she does when she's not *The Thorn*? Or is she always in a daze?

Eric Flesch, Cleveland, Ohio

(Just to clear up the Jeff Jones reference, we'll tell you that Jeff is, among other things, an accomplished sculptor. When Dick got to the Thorn *"statue," he used the pose of one of Jeff's sculptures. And we will try to show you more of* The Thorn's *thoughts.—E.N.B.)*

*****

Dear Editor:

Now, we all know that *Supie* loves *Lois*, so why do you have to throw in irrelevant love scenes? I'm referring to issue #116, page 5, panel 1. *Lois'* line was purely a cliche.

Now flip to the heart-rending scene in *Happyland's* House of Mirrors. *Superman* nobly rescued *Lois*, who nobly tried to save *Supie*. It was great! Now I don't have to buy this month's issue of *Secret Hearts*!

Pitting *Poison Ivy* against the *Floral Fury* was sheer genius. I remember *Ivy* from her scrapes with *The Batman*. I liked her then, but I liked her even better against *Thorn*. Why not give *Thorn* a chance against *Catwoman, Dr. Cyber* or *Starfire*?

Please resurrect *K.A.R.L.*! He's cute.

Question: Was page 4, panel 4 of the *Thorn* story done by Gil Kane? It looks like his work.

Kathy Stevenson, Jamestown, N.D.

(Dick Giordano tells us other people have asked him the same question. He assures us, though, that the resemblance is purely accidental. Your letter rather surprised us; most female readers want more *romance, not less. And you think* K.A.R.L., *the computer, was cute. We've heard of computer dating, but this is ridiculous! —E.N.B.)*

Send comments on this issue to LETTERS TO LOIS AND ROSE, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

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ALL YOU DO is sell Olympic's beautiful Everyday Selections — the lovely new Olympic All-Occasion Card and Note Ensemble for 1972, the All-Birthday and All-Get Well Assortments, popular fast selling Personalized Stationery, smart gift wrappings and attractive gifts. Wherever you call, people will be thrilled with the new Olympic line — and the price of just $2.95 a box will make sales a snap! Sell enough boxes to get the prize you select, or keep $1.00 for each box sold.

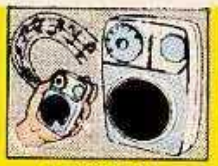
TO JOIN THE CLUB, fill in and mail the postcard. No postage is required! We'll send you — ABSOLUTELY FREE — the Olympic All-Occasion Sales Kit, Membership Card and FREE PRIZE CATALOG. You pay nothing! You owe nothing! Just show your sales kit to friends, neighbors and relatives — and start taking orders and earning prizes — NOW!

* Complete details on Olympic's Monthly Cash Prize Contest will be sent with your Free Sales Kit. JOIN NOW! MAIL POSTCARD TODAY!

OLYMPIC SALES CLUB, INC., DEPT. 72NC1, ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06082

FROM
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

COMPLETE FISHING OUTFITS

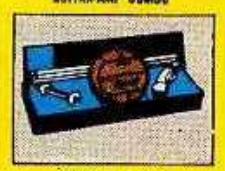


TRANSISTOR RADIO

CROQUET SET

GUITAR-AMP COMBO

WRIST WATCHES



VOLLEYBALL SET

GIRL'S TRAVEL CASE

SWIM SET

TAPE RECORDER

SLEEPING BAGS

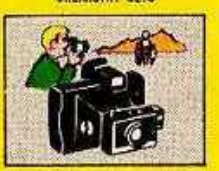
30-POWER TELESCOPE

COMPLETE ARCHERY SETS

HOT WHEELS RACE SET

CHEMISTRY SETS

SPORT BIKES

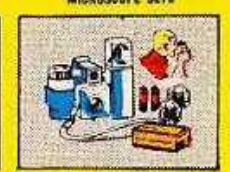


POLAROID COLORPACK CAMERA

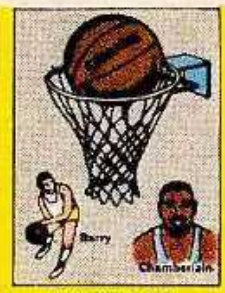
JR. TYPEWRITER

MICROSCOPE SETS

FOUR PLAYER BADMINTON



FLASH CAMERA OUTFITS



BASKETBALL & GOAL

"This year I made $20.00. Next year my aim is $40.00. I am sure I will make it, too."
Dennis Bryant
Maryland

"I sold 317 packs of American Seeds before they arrived. All I had to do was deliver them."
La-Veda Jones
New Mexico

"The American Seeds do the talking but I get the prizes."
William Wright
Connecticut

MAKE MONEY
GET PRIZES
with Fast Selling American Seeds

Take your choice of 100 wonderful prizes. You can earn as many as you want. Most prizes shown here and many more in our Big Prize Book are given WITHOUT COST for selling just one 48-pack order of American Vegetable and Flower Seeds at 25¢ a pack. Some of the larger prizes require more sales or extra money as explained in the Big Prize Book.

Send NO MONEY, We Trust You

Everybody wants American Seeds. They're fresh and ready to grow. You'll sell them quickly to family, friends and neighbors. Many boys and girls sell their packs in one day. You can too — and get your prize at once. Or, if you want money instead of a prize, keep $4.00 for every 48-pack order you sell.

USE THESE COUPONS ONLY

To order your seeds, fill out one of *these* coupons and mail in an envelope to:

AMERICAN SEED CO.
Dept. 234
Lancaster, Pa. 17604
OUR 54th YEAR

MAIL ONE COUPON TODAY
Give the Other to a Friend

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 234, Lancaster, Pa. 17604

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 25¢ a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

☐ All Flower Seeds ☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name_____

Address_____

Town_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 234, Lancaster, Pa. 17604

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 25¢ a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

☐ All Flower Seeds ☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name_____

Address_____

Town_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

EXTRA!

$3,000 AWARDED in our Promptness Contest in addition to the prizes and money you earn selling seeds.

Complete information is sent with your Big Prize Book and Seeds.

SAVE FOR COLLEGE or SPEND IT NOW!